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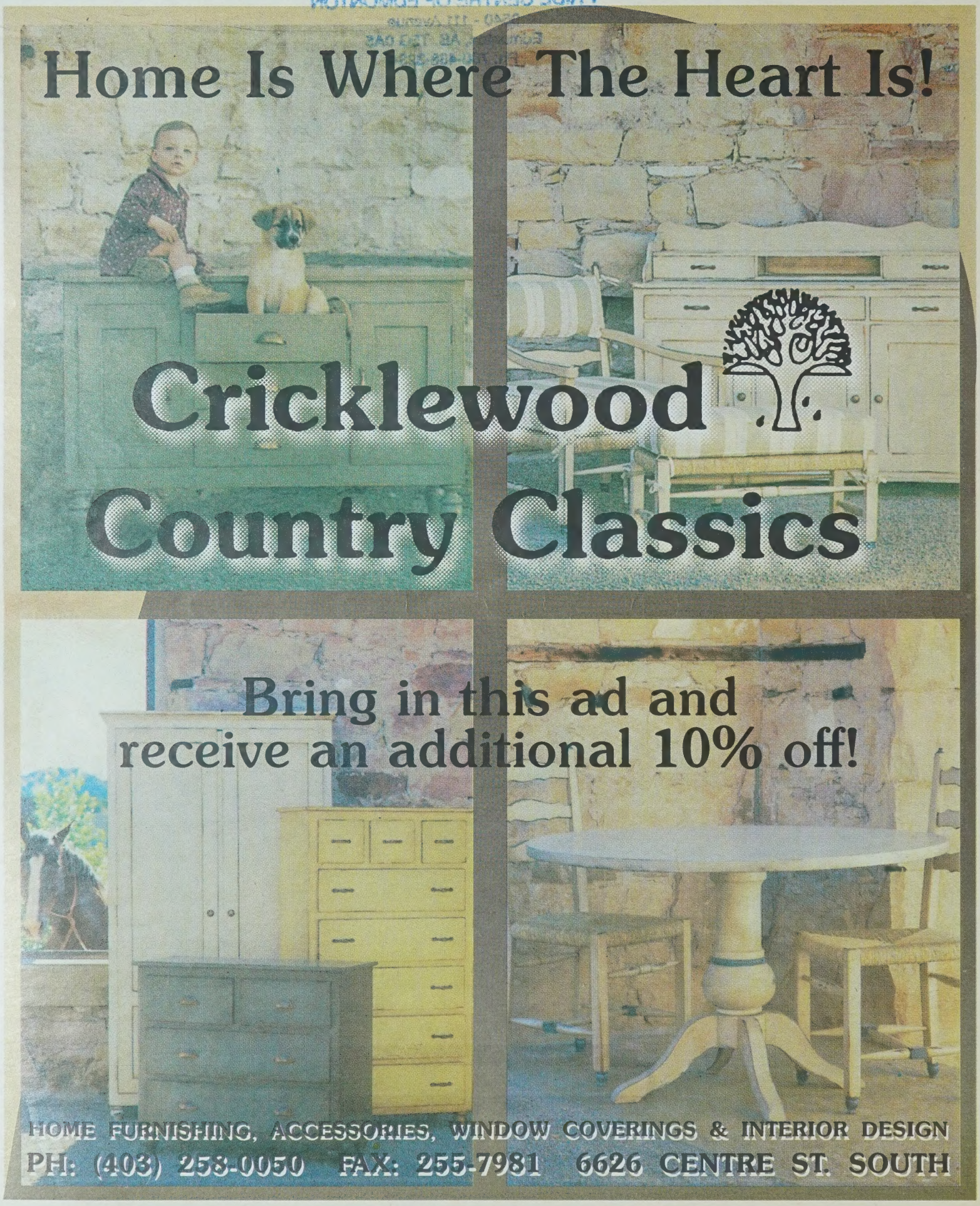
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ESTABLISHED 1997

Publisher ..... Roy Heale

Co-Publisher/ VP Advertising ..... Doug McDougall

Editor ..... David Crosson

Associate Editor ..... Bill Brooks

Graphics & Layout ..... Mike Rieger

Photography ..... Simon Burroughs

Sales ..... *Vancouver:* Michelle Clancey
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Edmonton: Philip Thomarat
Cedar Island Dreams Group
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National Sales: Pink Triangle Press

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Out-of-Town Distribution Coordinator ..... John Dul

Distribution ..... DLRJ Enterprises Ltd., Calgary
Clark's Distribution, Edmonton

Legal Counsel ..... E. Nikolaus Homberg

Printed by ..... Calgary Colorpress

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OUTLOOKS is published 12 times yearly by SuperMarketing Inc. Please send submissions or queries to the mailing address listed above. The opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the staff. *Outlooks* is not responsible for unsolicited work or photographic materials.

WHAT'S WHERE

Cover: You Gotta Have Heart
Outlooks' Valentine vision 2000
COVER DESIGN: MIKE RIEGER AND DAVID CROSSON
PHOTOGRAPHER: SIMON BURROUGHS
SPECIAL THANKS TO BRAD FOR THE BOD

Folks Like Us

BBC Four's gay soap sensation *Queer As Folk* is taking the UK by storm—and surprise.

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Never On A Sunday?

Not if you're Sue Johanson, popular sex therapist and host of WTN's top-rated *Sunday Night Sex Show.*

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She Gets Around

A selection of non-traditional treasures to make this Valentine's memorable.

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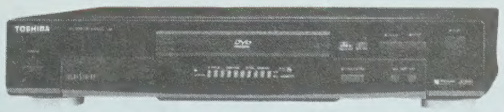

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Policies and practices

by David Crosson

Over the last ten years, in various capacities in and around this industry, I have learned that the more a publication grows, the bigger a target it becomes. In the past few months, it has been evident that *Outlooks* is entering this crucial, if sticky, phase of development.

Judging by the questions I've been asked and the feedback I've received recently, there are a great many people out there who don't know how a newspaper—and, in particular, *this* newspaper—is run. Despite the fact that we are nearing our third anniversary, *Outlooks* is still a very small operation, one run entirely by contract manpower. Our team of writers, editors, designers and salespeople contribute their talents on a part-time, freelance basis, with many earning their living through other full-time (if not greater) pursuits. At the end of the day, production of the papers comes down not only to manpower, but issues of scheduling, economics, reader demographics and editorial policy that is constantly evolving.

In an effort to foster greater understanding of how things work in the production of *Outlooks*, I offer these few points.

• *Outlooks* is a monthly newspaper and, as such, often complicates deadlines for the announcement of events, etc. Often by the 24th of any given month the paper has been formatted, proofed and sent to the printer, so event listings must be submitted in writing by the 15th of each month. As this is a free service, inclusion is based on space, priority of submission and broadness of appeal to the community at large.

• Ideas for stories must be pitched at least forty-five days prior to an issue's release, except in December and January when we produce two issues concurrently to meet holiday printing schedules (in this case, at least sixty days notice is preferred). Story proposals must be submitted to my attention (editorial), not to salespeople, contributors or office staff. Unsolicited submissions are in no way guaranteed placement in the paper.

• Advertising and editorial content are mutually exclusive and one does not influence the other in any way. In the case of occasional tie-ins/overlap, content will be decided at the discretion of the editorial staff.

• As *Outlooks* is a gay newspaper, editorial submissions must either relate to gay themes or have the potential for a gay 'spin' to be put on a story.

• This publication, from its inception, has had coast-to-coast distribution and a presence on the Internet (the latter giving us readership in such diverse places as England, Jamaica, the Ukraine and Japan). Although a Calgary-based paper, we try to supplement our local stories with general interest content to address our very broad readership.

• Last, and certainly not least, we ask that you remember that we produce this publication for you. In order to make it a success, we ask only for your cooperation, open communication, consideration of manpower capabilities and deadlines and, at times, a bit of understanding. Thank you for your continued support.

OUTLOOKS MILLENNIUM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Counting on support

It has only been one month since we announced the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation and the response has been outstanding. We have received preliminary grant applications from Ontario, B.C. and Alberta plus numerous enquiries about the application process. The primary mandate of the foundation is to provide seed money for the creation of new gay and lesbian organizations across Canada and the early applications indicate that there are plenty of ideas for new activities that are looking for assistance with start-up costs..

Some of these applications have come from youth groups, theatre companies, radio programs and a group home for teenagers, to mention a few. It seems to indicate that, within Canada's gay and lesbian community, there is plenty of room for growth with people prepared to volunteer their time to create new activities or services. However, it is also quite clear that the funds to do this are sadly lacking. For many of these potential new organizations and activities, "getting started" is the most difficult thing—especially in smaller communities where fund-raising activities are extremely limited. For example, a youth group in a town like Medicine Hat, Alberta, has to network for membership but raising funds is almost impossible outside of their own core. It is in these areas that the foundation can be most helpful in providing the initial seed money to launch the project.

The foundation has applied for several government grants but we need your help in order to raise funds in the short term. Every donation, large or small, will assist in providing funds to the successful applicants and every donor to the foundation will receive a membership card plus newsletters from time to time. We encourage you to support this important initiative and help us to provide valuable assistance to new community groups. In future issues of *Outlooks* we will keep you informed as to who receives grants and how their activities progress. Please make your donation using the form below and remember, no amount is too small.

Roy Heale

Yes, I would like to donate to the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation.

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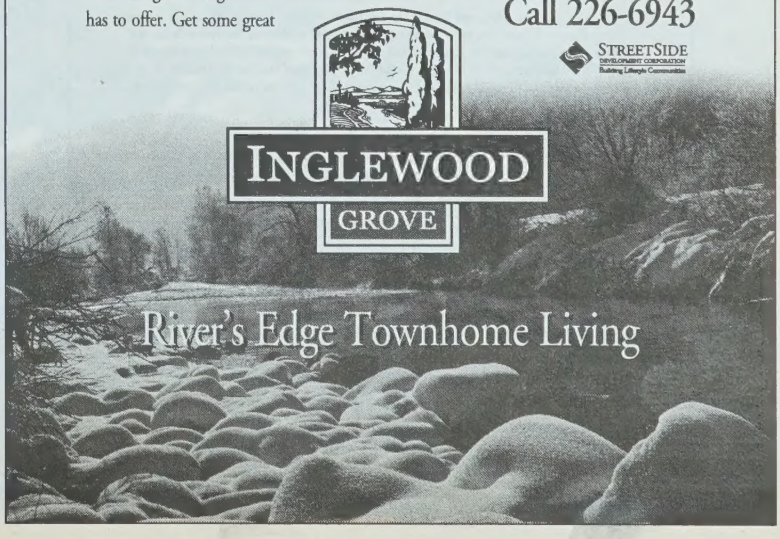

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For an "In Memoriam" in *Outlooks* at no charge, contact Brad Baker at any of the above telephone numbers.

LETTERS

December 7, 1999

Roy D. Heale
c/o Outlooks
#200 2050 10th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T3C 0J9

Dear Mr. Heale,

On behalf of the Calgary Police Service, it is a privilege to lend my support to the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation.

As Calgarians we are fortunate to have a city where we can learn from each other, recognize the value we each have to offer and collectively work toward a common good.

Each and every Calgarian, truly, plays an important role in creating this unity. Leading organizations like the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation exemplify the essence of equity, inclusion and diversity we can all strive for.

Sadly, there are still very real challenges that members from our diverse communities may face — hate crime and discrimination, to name but two. We must, however, work together through these challenges, find solutions to our problems and strive for a greater respect for each other.

I am confident the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation will further the efforts of the gay and lesbian community and build relationships necessary to ensure positive change and global acceptance of this diverse community.

Sincerely,

Office of the Chief of Police
Christine Silverberg

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November 29, 1999

Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation
#200, 2050 – 10th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta
T3C 0J9

Attention: Bill Brooks

Dear Bill:

May I extend my support to the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation, created to benefit gay and lesbian organizations across Canada.

I fully support any endeavor to encourage the greater acceptance of those in the gay and lesbian community into the mainstream of Canadian life.

Too often there are those in our society, who, whether they realize it or not, inflict great damage to members of various minority groups. No where has this been more evident than the hurt and discrimination imposed upon the gay and lesbian community in Canada.

I completely support your efforts to open up the doors to understanding, so that everyone in this great land will have the opportunity to achieve their potential without having the tragedy of discrimination and prejudice imposed upon them. Congratulations on your endeavors!

Yours truly,

Ron Ghitter

RG:tl

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January 17, 2000

Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation
Box 439, Suite 100
1039 17th Avenue S.W.
Calgary Alberta T2T OB2

Dear Directors of the Board:

What a wonderful way to begin the Milennium but with a Foundation whose vision will be to unite and to strengthen gay and lesbian communities across Canada.

The Year 2000 has been declared by the United Nations as the International Year for the Culture of Peace. In essence, as is the mission of your Foundation, the vision is for the creation of safe and caring communities and its focus is on respect for cultural diversity and promotion of tolerance, solidarity, co-operation, dialogue and reconciliation. It is indeed fitting that the year 2000 is the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

We all have lofty goals and it is only with the ideas of a few that the larger community can benefit. If indeed intolerance, discrimination and war begins in the minds of man, then in the minds of man must be planted the seeds for the culture of peace.

I wish you good stead in your endeavours.

Sincerely,

Edmund A. Oliverio
Vice President/Program & Protocol
United Nations Association in Canada

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1999 December 20

Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation
c/o Outlooks Magazine

Attn: Roy Heale, publisher

Dear Roy:

I am in receipt of your request for comment and support regarding the good work done by the Outlooks Foundation.

As Alderman for the inner-city communities of Ward 8, I have the great pleasure of representing an extremely diverse group of citizens here - the most diverse in the City. As such, I am well aware that diversity often brings with it some very large challenges, keenly felt by those in my position - but at the same time, it also brings with it many opportunities. I am someone who has always thought that if mankind is ever to achieve its highest ideals, its highest potential, then it must start with as broad a base as possible - a base that includes absolutely everyone in society. Thus, diversity is a blessing - an opportunity to build a broader base of human knowledge, opinions, perspectives. and realities - as long as we have a system that ensures inclusivity and a voice for all.

It is with this realization, that I am pleased to provide the Outlooks Foundation, with my letter of support for the excellent work you are doing.

In working with and advocating for a group whose voice is not always recognized or appreciated by the mainstream you are helping to bridge the gap in understanding and empathy which are so necessary to alleviate fear and which often lead to exclusivity in social behavior. Fear often melts away however, when good communication is established, even between the most diverse groups. Through charitable acts, and through the more emotional communication methods such as arts, and culture, we can often see great progress achieved in the society - and thus I heartily endorse your approach in this regard.

Best wishes to you all, and keep up the good work!

Yours truly,

JON LORD
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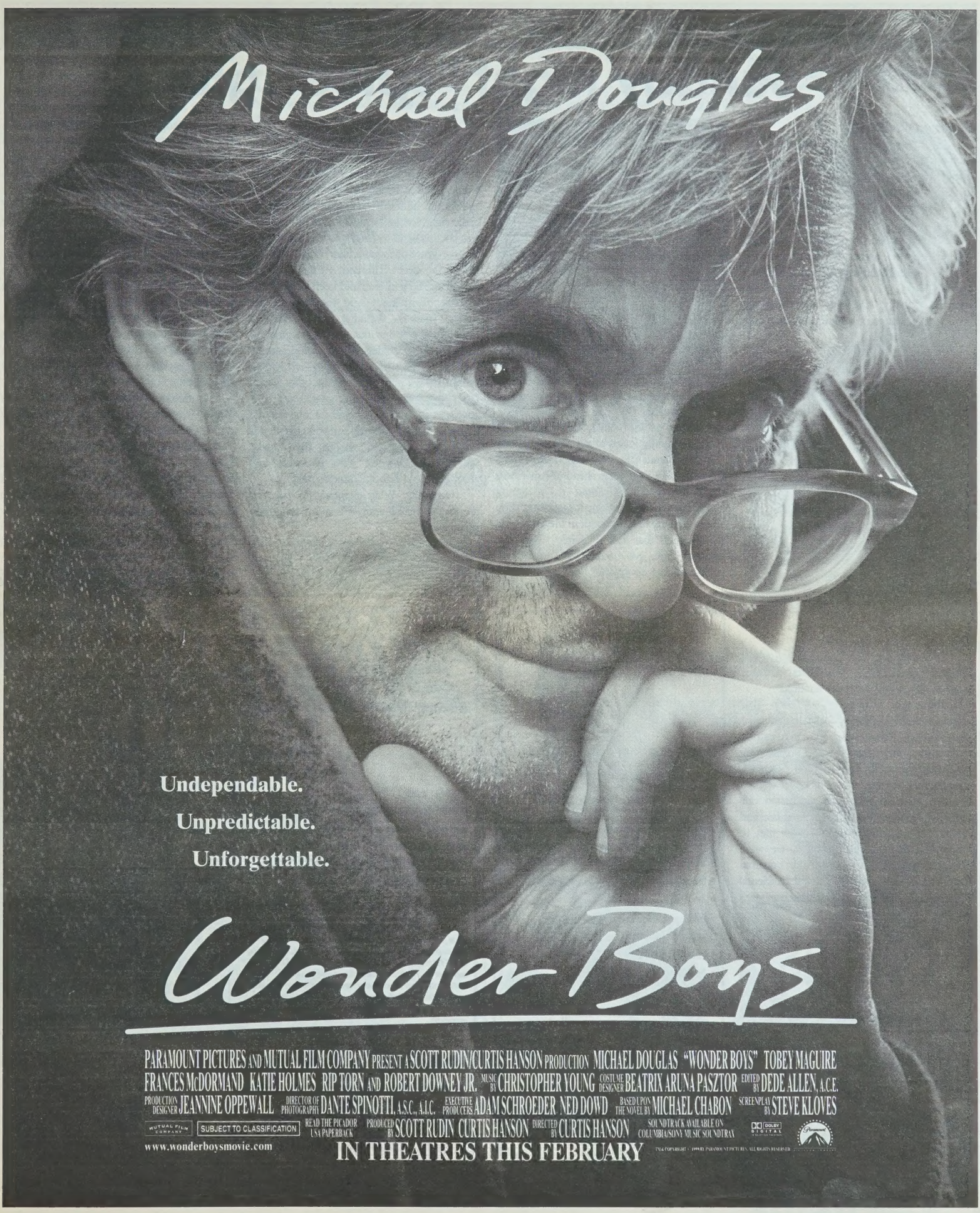
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Sunday night "spice" girl

by David Crosson

She's been called the Canadian Dr. Ruth—a comparison that demeans both the woman and her work. Far from a novelty (though undeniably entertaining), therapist Sue Johanson has won people over with her frank and practical advice on all matters sexual. Her phone-in program *Sunday Night Sex Show* is the highest-rated show on the Women's Television Network and her tireless lecture tours garner her new fans and admiration yearly. *Outlooks* recently caught up with Johanson to do an exclusive little call-in session of our own.

Outlooks: What was your initial inspiration for getting started inthis profession?

Johanson: What got me started was setting up a birth control clinic for kids in the health room of a high school, way back in 1970. The teen pregnancy rate in Toronto was pretty astounding and I was raising teenagers; I was really upset by it. So I decided that I was going to start a birth control clinic for kids. It was free, no-hassle, easily accessible, no-appointment-necessary-at-all, just-drop-in place with confidentiality guaranteed. By law, we can do *anything* for *anybody* of *any age* without parental knowledge or consent. Now, I know that parents are upset by that, but if their kids are old enough to be involved in sex, then their kids are old enough to make decisions about the consequences.

Outlooks: Do you find it easier to talk about sex and sexuality now or do you find that people are still quite shy about it?

Johanson: I find it very easy—I've always found it very easy—to talk about sex and sexuality. Except when it came to talking to my own kids; that was different. Oh, goodness, yes! Oh, I understand parents—been there, done that. My kids never wanted to hear it from me. There would be ten kids around the kitchen table talking about sex, and my kids would not be there! Now they're adults and they tell me "Mother, we were *dying* to know about sex but we didn't want to hear it from you." So they'd ask their friends

SUE JOHANSON
photo courtesy of Sue Johanson

what I had said.

Outlooks: Do you feel that North Americans, on the whole, are more uptight about discussing issues of sex and sexuality?

Johanson: Oh, yes—absolutely. And Canadians are light-years ahead of Americans in terms of talking about it, becoming comfortable with it, seeking information. You know, actively seeking it out in the library, on the Internet, that sort of thing. Now the Internet scares me because it's not always good, accurate information.

Outlooks: *Homo sapiens* and monogamy—what are your thoughts?

Johanson: [Sighs.] Whoa... that's a tough one. You know, in the olden days when women died at twenty-five or thirty years of age during childbirth—and men were killed in battle right, left and centre—then monogamy was not this hand-in-hand-into-the-sunset-for-seventy-years-of-togetherness thing. It's a wonderful ideal. The concept that any one person can be with you and keep your life on a track of intimacy and togetherness for seventy years is... daunting. And I think we have to get over this idea that you're going to live happily ever after with the same partner. It *is* changing, it *has* changed... And I think eventually we may come to the point where the person who you fall ga-ga, ass-over-applecart in love with is maybe not the one that you marry. Marrying someone like that is not necessarily a good thing. Then maybe you marry someone who is stable and committed and a good partner.

Outlooks: What elements do you feel are key to maintaining a healthy, long-term relationship?

Johanson: You know what? *Liking* each other, really liking each other. I like my partner; we have fun together, we enjoy each other, we laugh. We share things but we're not joined at the hip. We can argue and disagree and debate and discuss, but we don't fight. We don't fight dirty, we don't resort to name-calling or blaming each other or throwing things. Somebody may stomp off and say "I can't deal with this—I'm going for a walk; I'll talk to you tonight!"

Outlooks: I think, too, with any longer-term relationship, the sizzle goes out of the sex eventually and you have to enjoy that person's companionship.

Johanson: Oh, absolutely—you have to have *fun*. You have to be able to giggle about sex because, boy, sex is a giggle. If you can't do anything else with it you might as well giggle at it.

Outlooks: What are your views on the Kinsey scale with regards to homosexuality and heterosexuality?

Johanson: You know what? I don't give a damn; I don't care. I am not a lesbian but I am gay-positive. I am very supportive and I work a lot with the gay and lesbian community—primarily with men, very few women—who are HIV-positive. I have a cottage where they come out in "relays" all summer long. I have a back cottage for them

continued on page 9

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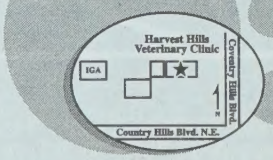

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continued from page 8

to use and it's dedicated to people who are HIV-positive. I am very, very comfortable with homosexuality. And I don't care if someone is different or their lifestyle is different. Whoever said mine was the best? As far as I'm concerned, they're great.

Outlooks: Do you think we'll ever see a time when "gay is okay" will occur on a widespread societal level?

Johanson: I don't live in Alberta, you do! You tell me. Alberta is the last—I hope—the last bastion of homophobia. You've chosen a dandy place to live! You know, I teach at Mount Royal [College] and SAIT and the U of C sometimes, and when I talk about homosexuality... Oh! Olds College—there's a place where the minute I mention homosexuality all the guys just literally seize up. In Toronto and Vancouver, where there are large gay populations, nobody gets upset and it's quite acceptable. So what. So they go out on Hallowe'en and parade around—and we go down and watch because it—and Pride—are the best parades around. You can't beat it. It's wonderful.

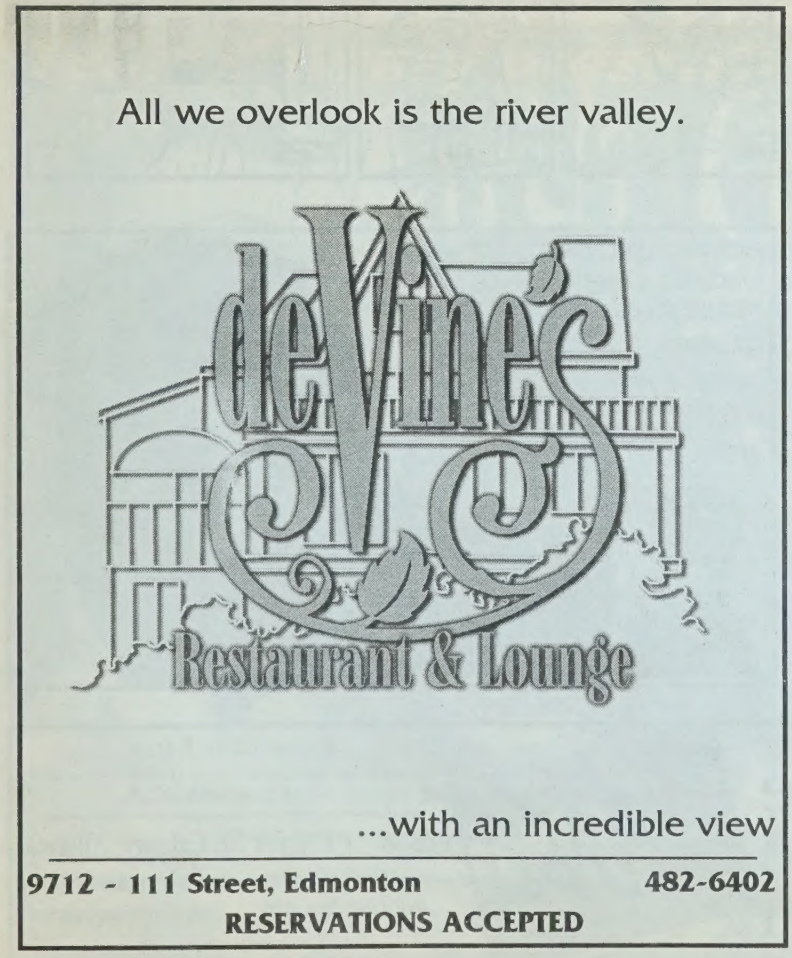
Outlooks: What do you make of the bond between gay men and straight women?

Johanson: A lot of it is based on the trust levels. I know you're not going to come on to me—we're safe as houses. We can have fun together, I can boogie my buns off and it's not seen as flirting; I'm not trying to turn you on or lead you down the garden path. The other thing is that we can talk unabashedly, because I know damn well that you are not going to hold that against me and use it as ammunition in the future. And you just kind of accept me just as I am—farts and all—that's the way it is. This is a great generalization, but females really enjoy the spontaneity of gay males. I mean, when they decide to do something they do it with flair—remember, I'm generalizing. I watch the guys out at the cottage and if they decide they're going to do a dinner, they *do* a *dinner*. Twelve courses. At the cottage. They don't do it every day, but when they do it, oh god is it *done*. And they have fun doing it. You know, we straights are so boring!

Outlooks: [Laughs.] Do you have any parting thoughts for us?

Johanson: Well, you know, my biggest concern is for kids in high school or junior high who think they might be gay. They feel so terribly alone and isolated and they can't talk to anybody because if it ever gets out, they're dead. I try to say to kids "Hey, if you're in high school and you think you're homosexual, just keep it under your hat." If you live in a large city where you can find a gay and lesbian organization downtown—great. Go there and play tennis and basketball and join the baseball team. Do whatever everybody else is doing with the gang, but in your own school setting, be careful. It's a tough time and this is why things like gay hotlines are just essential.

Sue Johanson's* Sunday Night Sex Show *can be seen at 11 pm ET/8 pm PT (live) on the Women's Television Network.



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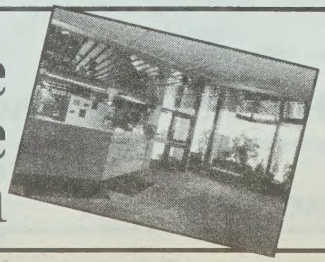

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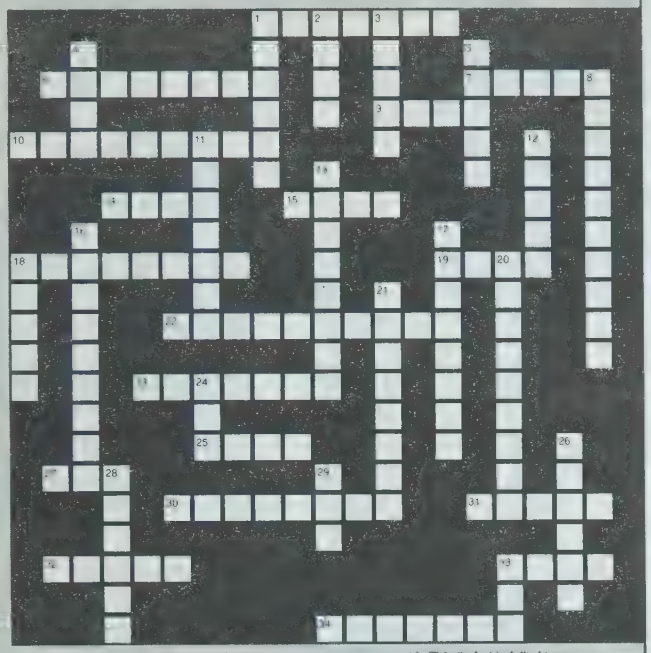
QUEERWORD

clues & words by Outlooks staff

answers on Page 35



ACROSS

1. Jane Campion film or Edina's favourite word
6. Some mobsters "bit it" in the St. Valentine's Day ___
7. Don't You Wish? accessories (Feb.)
9. Pearly paste or opposite of 'go'
10. If you're lucky, he'll make you ___
14. The most "arousing" deadly sin
15. Slang for bed, bag, or scrotum
18. Can be done on an exam or a partner
19. This four-letter word is scary for some
22. Equivalent of "gay marriage": ___ ceremony
23. Paid male escort or Larry Flynt's magazine
25. "Radiant" feature on front cover
27. Edmonton's theatre scene has this kind of 'Wood'
30. Also known as "The Green-Eyed Monster"
31. Pooh's passion or term of endearment
32. Applies to devils, toads or randy people
33. Flaming part of candle or slang for penis
34. Deceased single-name icon of 70's designer chic

DOWN

1. Music comes in these, so do boys
2. The god of love
3. Magician's feat or casual date
4. Jennifer Saunder's latest TV venture: *Let Them Eat* ___.
5. "Ethnic" term for anal action
8. Romantic Victorian cut-out portrait
11. Versace's widower: ___ D'Amico
12. Type of cosmetic or French for 'red'
13. Not Farmer's Son, but Farmer's ___
16. Heart-wise, it's not an aorta, but a ___
17. Trendy metal that's replacing gold's preciousness
18. This 'babe' is full of love
20. Legendary silent screen lover: Rudolph ___
21. Forbes, Haring, Jarman and Warhol all died in this month
24. *The Sunday Night* ___ *Show*
26. They put the tongue in the kiss
28. The last word in gay travel guides
29. A Boy Named ___ or Ms. Johanson
33. Call letters of *Sunday Night Sex Show* network

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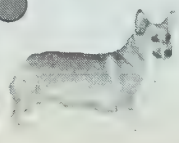

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SOUND, LIGHTS AND MUSIC BY UNDERGROUND PRODUCTIONS

The book of love

by Cindy Filipenko

A couple of interesting things happened over the Christmas holidays. After a year-and-a-half of going full-tilt boogie working on an animated film, I had time to relax, kick back and catch up on my reading. To stifle my whingeing about having nothing to read, my partner (aka The Woman) dragged me off to purchase some new titles.

Two hours and forty bucks later I was back in my house with two books, Maya Angelou's *Sometimes Even The Stars Get Lonely*, and A.M. Homes' *The Safety of Objects*. Like a diabetic with a seasonal Pot of Gold box, for two solid days I gorged myself on the beauty of the written word. I'd chew on a chunk of Angelou's wise and wonderful personal essays and then savour a sliver of Homes' painfully accurate prose. While Angelou's richly illustrative work can best be defined as inspirational, Homes' is confrontational, with short stories that illuminate our darker landscapes.

In Homes' world, suburban professionals end up smoking crack when their kids are away visiting Grandma, while both Barbie and Ken dolls make suitable sex objects for a horny teenage boy. Yet the two variant styles were so complementary, I couldn't stop until the final page had been turned.

But I digress, this is not a column about literature; rather, with Valentine's Day upon is, it is about love. To get to the point: after reading these two vibrant volumes I was out of things to read. I went to my bookshelf and whipped out an old review copy I had received many moons ago of a book called *Finding True Love in a Man Eat Man World* by Craig Nelson.

Never having had the occasion to negotiate a date with a gay man *as* a gay man, I had not yet cracked the spine. My thinking at the time was that the book would make a good gift for one of the men I know. Not only would it show that I cared about the state of the lucky guy's romantic life, it was free. And, as we know, free is good.

It was partially in this spirit that I liberated the tome from its constricted position on the bookshelf, nestled between two rather imposing hardbacks. It had been my thought to give the book to a friend of ours who was visiting and had expressed his utter dismay at the quality of men he was meeting. However, first I thought I should have a look at it. I didn't want to endorse a book written by the queer equivalent of Dr. Laura or worse, hand over some pathetic gay knock-off of *The Rules*.

Happily, I can report that Craig Nelson is in no way, shape or form like that nasty radio "therapist." In fact, the author seems like a common sense guy with sound advice on the many forms gay male relationships can take. And better yet, he has advice on what to do to get to the point where you have a relationship where advice is needed.

But as things worked out, Visiting Gay Male Friend (VGMF) did not become the recipient of the book. Instead, he became the recipient of a new boyfriend.

Before VGMF had arrived in town, we had made plans to spend the evening with Best Gay Male Friend (BGMF). Now the two were not exactly strangers (nudge-nudge, wink-wink); rather, they had failed to make that all-important love connection upon their previous meeting.

After an initial awkward re-introduction, VGMF and BGMF seemed to warm up to each other. The Woman and I looked on in anticipation. Would it finally happen? Would two of the men we liked best in the whole world join the handful of couples where we equally enjoy the company of both partners?

The night of their fateful reunion, we had planned a post-Christmas walk through Van Dusen Gardens, a botanical masterpiece that features such wonders as a tree decked out in lights made to respond like a giant illuminated organ. (An effect which can provoke seizures when Boney M tunes come on.) But best of all, there was mistletoe. And of course, much to our delight (as well as various levels of horror expressed by straight families) this is where the romance between VGMF and BGMF started, with a single meeting of the mustaches under the mistletoe.

In the time VGMF spent visiting, the two shared three evenings, culminating in the big Y2K date. It was so sweet, I could hardly stand it. In fact, I wouldn't have been surprised if one—or both—had shown up with a corsage on his leather jacket.

As I was reading through *Finding True Love in a Man Eat Man World*, I had found myself thinking about BGMF as well as VGMF. As I finished the book I realized it was probably not a book for either of them to read at this time. There are no rules in relationships and there's no sure-fire method to acquire true love. If there is a spark, there is the possibility of fire.

Flame on, guys! And Happy Valentine's Day.

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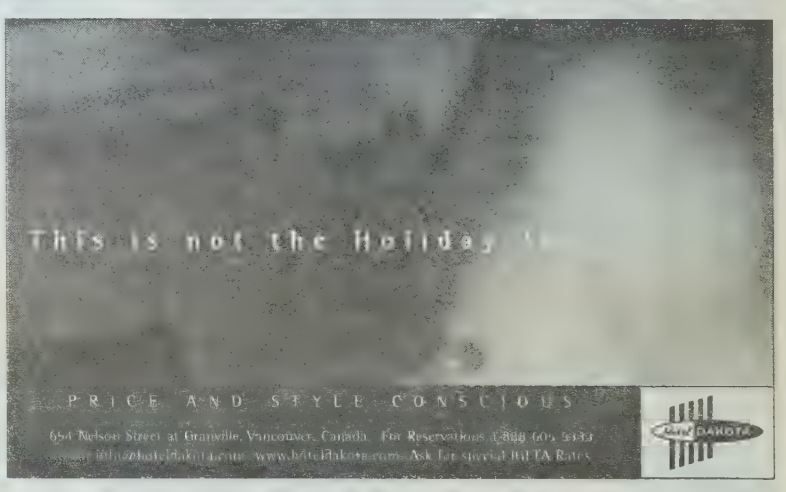
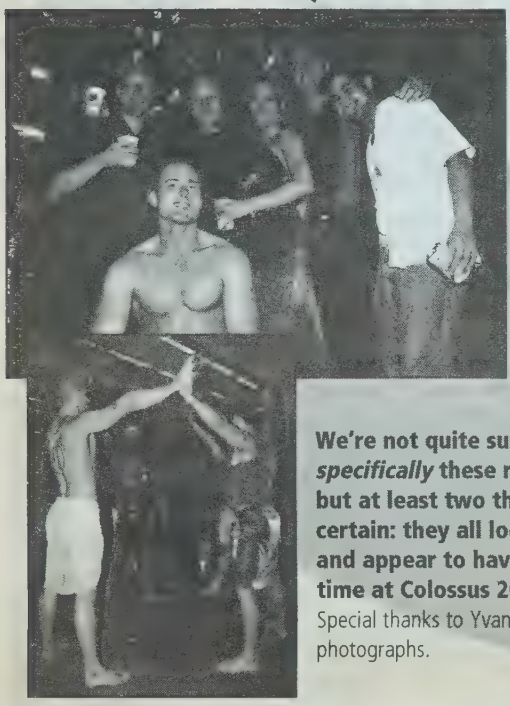
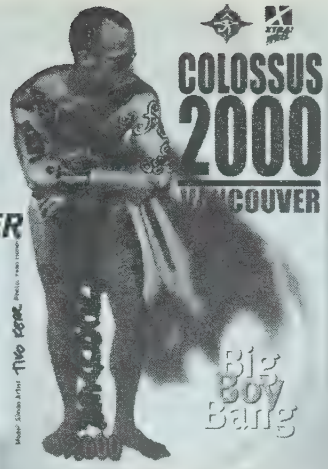
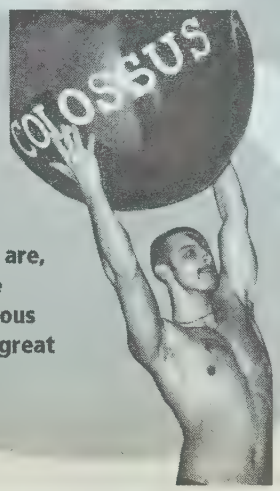


OUT & ABOUT IN VANCOUVER







We're not quite sure who *specifically* these revellers are, but at least two things are certain: they all look fabulous and appear to have had a great time at Colossus 2000.
Special thanks to Yvan for the photographs.

GLCSA

Gay & Lesbian Community Services Association

Be welcome at the Sunday Evening Women's Drop-In from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the GLCSA. Eclectic topics for February include: Feb. 6th - Computers; Feb. 13th - Astrology and Your Relationships; February 27th - Support Groups. Call 234-8973 for details.

"Inside Out" a group for youth between 16 and 25 meets every Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the common room of the Old Y, 223 12th Ave. SW. Hoof on over!

Drop in and check out our really very big library for all your queer information needs. And if it's a Thursday you are in luck! The Bisexual Network meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m., while SheQ for Women sits every second and fourth Thursday at 7:30 in the GLCSA offices.

If you have an event that you would like listed on our community calendar call us at 234-8973.

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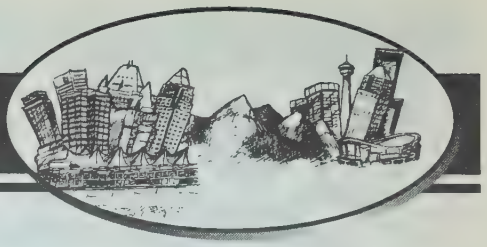

Memorial melee

by Pat Johnson

Vancouver was one of the first cities in North America to respond to the AIDS epidemic. While other gay communities were in denial (and some probably hadn't even heard about the new virus) Vancouver's gay community was mobilizing to do what it could for those who were stricken in the earliest stages of the disease's now long and disastrous history. AIDS Vancouver was at the forefront of serving people with the illness. Since then, the city has continued to be progressive in its approach to the disease and is home to the Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, a renowned treatment and research facility.

So it was a surprise to many when the idea of installing a memorial to those who have died from AIDS was met with something akin to hysteria three years ago.

The proposal would have seen a memorial constructed in Stanley Park, the enormous forest adjacent to Vancouver's gay-dense West End. The timing may not have been fortuitous. In the last few years, park activists have vocally opposed anything that would encroach any further on the park space. Since it was created, the 1,000-acre park has become home to the Vancouver Aquarium, several restaurants and food service concessions, playing fields and innumerable other constructions of various sorts and sizes. Most recently, the Stanley Park Zoo was forced to close after a referendum determined that most voters didn't want to see animals caged in their flagship park. That may have been an indirect catalyst to the heated debate over an AIDS memorial. When it was determined that the zoo would go, park officials decided to return the area to passive green space rather than to install some alternative "attraction." That seemed to cement the view among park-lovers that less is more: things should be taken out of the park, if necessary, but nothing more should be put in.

A noble idea, perhaps, but the debate over an AIDS memorial was not so benign. In public meetings on the matter and in informal call-in surveys, members of the public spewed homophobic vitriol that shocked many who had rarely seen such open contempt in this city.

A sort of paranoia developed about who was genuinely concerned about the park and who was using the issue as a cover to legitimize their pent-up hatred.

The seven elected park commissioners who govern the city were in a tight spot, particularly since three of them were gay or lesbian themselves. The issue came up immediately before the civic election three years ago and played itself out in a very public way. In the end, the Stanley Park site was rejected. Commissioners said they sifted through the nasty entrails of the debate and found that there were genuine and valid concerns about any more infringements on the park.

In the aftermath of that whole thing, another site was found and approved without much fanfare. It is in another West End park (in fact, because of Vancouver's copious park space, it is actually in a park that is contiguously connected to Stanley Park through the city's famed Seawall and adjacent greenspace.)

Ed Lee, who is on the board of directors of the ad hoc AIDS Memorial Committee, says the whole process was a learning experience both for them and the park board. The board finally solidified formal procedures for donations to civic property.

In the end, there was little concern about the planned location, which will be just above the waters of English Bay. The general acceptance of this location gives Lee the feeling that the cloud has been lifted from the project.

"In the long run, it's going to be welcomed, not just slipped in," says Lee. He feels that even the nasty public meetings had a bright side: when some people argued that the memorial should go in a cemetery "where it belongs," Lee says advocates were able to express the importance of the memorial's educational aspect.

Yet the memorial committee has hit snags in the gay community too, with some prominent people protesting about funds for the dead while there are still people living with the disease in hunger or in need of services, to say nothing of a cure.

To counter that, Lee says his committee is seeking corporate donations, but are asking donors to find only new money and not to reduce other planned allocations for AIDS-related charities. Moreover, he says, the educational impact of the memorial should have an overall positive impact on public concern for people living with AIDS and therefore will help people indirectly in the long run.

The matter seems to be smoothed over and the committee hopes to have raised the $250,000 to $300,000 it requires to have the structure up by the end of this year.

The memorial itself is to be a "gently undulating ribbon winding through a wooded landscape" according to artists Bruce Wilson, Susanna Barrett and Marc Tessler. The "ribbon" will be a series of steel panels with names laser-cut into them.

"In this way the names are 'removed' and 'absent' from the body of the memorial, as the persons named are 'removed' and 'absent' from our lives," say the artists.

The planned size of ten metres is enough to encompass the names of British Columbians who have so far died of AIDS. An extension of as much as twenty metres could be attached through additional panels.

Lee says that, among the significant purposes of a memorial for people who died from AIDS, the sculpture is to provide a tangible place for people to grieve their losses.

"There are many people in this community who, because of being gay, do not participate fully in the whole process of dying," he says. In some instances, parents come in and take over the affairs while in others, the sick person returns to a remote hometown to live out their final days.

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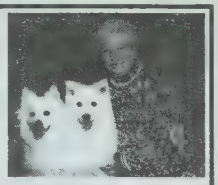

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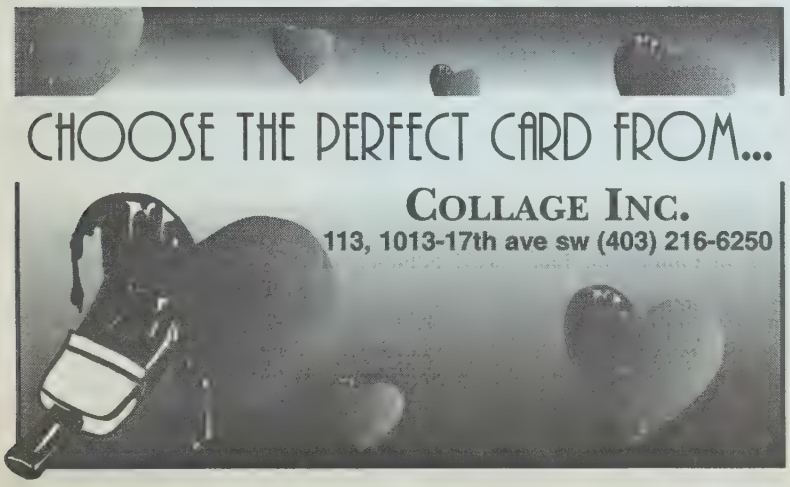

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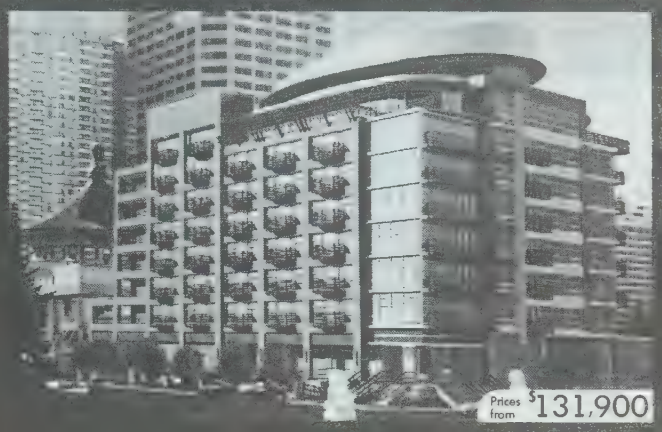

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HOROSCOPE

by Charlene Lichtenstein

Feeling a bit down this February? You are not alone, honey: a solar eclipse in Aqueerius on the fifth sets the tone for a dizzy and emotional Valentine's month. Adding the retrograde Mercury to the mix will almost guarantee a full comedy of errors. Thankfully, Jupiter also guarantees a big rainbow 'heart-on' in the middle of the month.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

If friends appear to be especially annoying or hurtful this February, swallow your bile and chalk it up to a fierce February planet-fest in arrogant Aqueerius. Rainbow Rams risk misunderstandings and miscommunications if they overreact to perceive slights. My advice: maintain a sense of humour, distribute many valentines and avoid those slippery banana peels. Whoops!

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

As a fixed sign (with Leo, Scorpio and Aqueerius), queer Bulls will feel greater impact of the eclipse on February fifth. Emotions will run especially high at work as long-range plans quickly shift direction. On the bright side, many unresolved career issues will resolve now, more than likely for the better. Gather your gains, cut your losses and share the love with a particular valentine.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

February planetary action will place more emphasis on global enterprises and travel. Maybe love in faraway places? The solar eclipse in Aqueerius on the fifth can close the case on any hanging legal issue, if you are lucky. Pink Twins usually feel that they have to get a consensus before they can take action. This month, you'll realize that you yourself have all the answers.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Gay Crabs may not know what hit 'em this February as the solar eclipse in Aqueerius stirs up their volcanic passion into a hot and spicy seafood bisque. Eat while you can, darling, but don't get indigestion. Emotions can run to the extreme and so can you. Thankfully, you will always have a few good bosom buddies to bolster you up if a certain valentine gets you down.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Queer Leos can act imperious, arrogant and demanding around partners. Watch who you boss around this Valentine's month when the eclipse in Aqueerius cuts you and other fixed signs (Scorpio, Taurus and Aquarius) down to pint size. Some say size doesn't matter but... Ha! Rocky relationships can be scuttled and even strong ones shaken now. Is that what you want, lover?

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

February planetary activity will rock your day-to-day work. Are you fed up? Bored? Ready for a change? Gay Virgins are tempted to make an emotional final decision during the February fifth eclipse. Don't make any rash moves, babe; Jupiter will insist that you temporarily escape from your travails with a valentine's vacation. Face the dragons with a clearer head after the fifteenth.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

If fun gets out of hand this February, blame the frenzy on the solar eclipse on the fifth. Even optimistic gay Libras will be temporarily shaken by festive rumbles gone amok. On the bright side, creativity is unblocked and you become an artistic genius. After Valentine's Day, you'll focus on your soulmate. How many bars do you have to visit before you find your tall, cool drink?

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Proud Scorps will be drawn into family disputes this February as the eclipse on the fifth flares emotions around relatives and at home. Issues that raised their ugly heads last August will resurface, so you can finally dispose of them once and for all. Comfortable it ain't, but once the field is levelled and re-seeded, you will find that life is far more pleasant and affirming. And that ain't bad!

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

February will unleash a lethal form of Sagittarian foot-in-mouth disease thanks to the eclipse on the fifth. Gay Archers must be extra careful of what they say and when they say it. Gripes that surfaced last August will find their way to your door again this Valentines month. At the same time, you'll continue to undergo great change as Pluto trolls through your sign. Oh goody.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

As hard as you try to hold onto your valuables, the planets seem to conspire to relieve you of your possessions. Chalk up the leakage to the February fifth solar eclipse. Queer Caps will feel the emotional pull of a shift in values. Good thing too: review and reassess in time for Valentine's Day. Can money buy happiness? Hmm. On second thought, don't answer that.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

February is a month of change, revelation and surprise for all Aqueerians. Of all the signs, you'll be perhaps the most affected by the eclipse on the fifth. Emotional reassessment of your life's directions that began last August are hitting you again this month. Do what you have to do to resolve these issues once and for all. A new broom sweeps clean; make it a vacuum, not a whisk.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

Gay Fish will feel like they are being led down a primrose path this February as promises vanish and guarantees are no longer guaranteed. Blame the confusion on the solar eclipse on the fifth, when nothing is as it first appears. At the same time, this Valentines month is an excellent time to toss out the old frights and embrace a new lavender you. You look stunning, you stunner, you.

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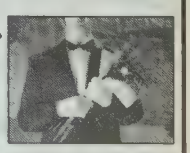
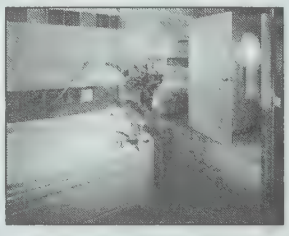
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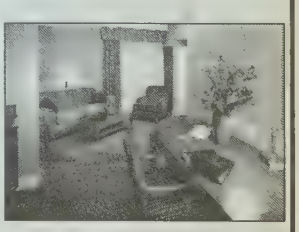
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All involved with the Hospice are delighted with $100,000 pledge from the Allard Foundation made towards the purchase and renovation of our future home.

This generosity is greatly appreciated and, along with the bequest from the late Anne and Alan Rankin, a donation from the Associated Canadian Travellers of $4,640 and over $5,000 donated by our members and supporters has given us a strong foundation to build on. We can see our dream becoming a reality and are already looking forward to providing care and compassion for those who seek our help.

One of the individuals who attends Day Hospice tells us that:
Hospice gives hope. You forget about your pain. You don't feel alone. You feel kindness. You have light. You have hope.
How much more we will be able to achieve in our new home! How many more individuals and families we shall be able to help! How exciting it is to think about it and plan for it!

Thanks to all of you who have already so generously invested in our vision and in our community. Further donations to the building would be gratefully received.

ARGRA Rodeo 2000: E-I-E-I-'oe-down

ARGRA is very pleased to announce that the headline act for the seventh annual Canadian Rockies International Rodeo will be the Canadian singing sensation Farmer's Daughter.

This dynamic musical trio will be performing at Symon's Valley Ranch June 30 at 8.00 pm. Doors open at 6.30 pm. Tickets are $20.00 with purchase of a Weekend Package or $25.00 without. We were very fortunate to have our trustee, Stuart Aikins, who is involved in the entertainment industry, handle all the negotiations with agents. He has also assisted ARGRA financially in making Farmer's Daughter's performance for us a reality. Plans are progressing well for the rodeo, which will take place July 1 & 2. We are expecting a sunny weekend, but in case we get a bit of rain we are making plans to make this year's event as dry as possible. This year our retail area will be housed in a big-top tent with heat (if necessary) and we hope to have a portion of the courtyard tented as well to provide shade from the sun.

photo by Four Eyes Visual Designs

Our advertising trifolds and posters will be unveiled the week of Feb. 1. This year our rodeo is also celebrating the International Gay Rodeo Association's (IGRA) 200th Rodeo. Ticket prices are $54.00 for members before May 31 and $64.00 for non-members before May 31. After June 1 tickets are $70.00 for members and $75.00 for non-members.

ARGRA's Calgary travel agency sponsor is Darcy at Northside Travel (1-403-276-7433) or northside1@home.com. Ask about his discount rates for the ARGRA rodeo.

Westjet has discount return rates available to our Canadian visitors outside Calgary. For information and reservations, call 1-800-538-5696 and quote code QC#549.

If you wish to camp at the rodeo, book your space now. Sites with power, sewer and/or water are available for recreational vehicles. There are also heated washrooms and shower facilities on the Symon's Valley grounds. Please note that there are no open fires permitted due to fire hazards. Reservations may be booked directly through Symon's Valley (403-274-4574, fax 295-3378). A total prize of $450 will be awarded for the best decorated campsites in day and night categories.

RV and tent trailer rentals are available from Alldrive Canada (1-403-245-2935; minimum 5 days), Affordable RV (1-800-567-7519; minimum 7 days), or Hobo Tent Trailers (1-403-277-6551).

Hotel accommodations are available at the Ramada Hotel, 708 8th Ave. SW. Rates are $125 for a double or quad, plus applicable taxes. For reservations, call 1-800-661-8684; when calling, mention ARGRA or CRIR for the special rate.

Another option is Calgary Westways Guest House, located at 216 25th Ave. SW. They can be reached at (403) 229-1758 or through the e-mail link on their website at www.westways.ab.ca.

Avis Car Rental is the host car rental agency. Please book your vehicle by calling

1-800-331-1600 and quoting discount number AWD T238300.

All rodeo events are open to both men and women and we encourage both first-time and experienced competitors. For specific information such as entry fees, contact either the IGRA or call the ARGRA Hotline.

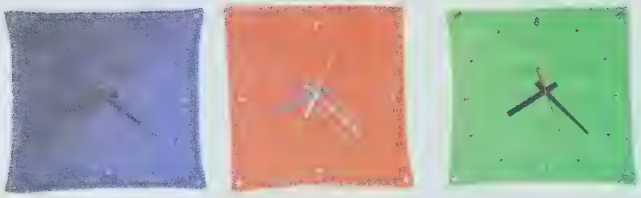
Stabling will be available at Symon's Valley Ranch (inside stalls as well as uncovered portable outside stalls). Stall reservations and payment must be made no later than June 1st. Stall rentals will be a flat $50 Canadian (feed not included). Stalls will be available from Friday morning to Monday morning. No one will be allowed to sleep overnight in their horse trailers around the barn area; campsites must be booked. For stall reservations, call 1-403-541-8140 or fax 1-403-237-9194.

—David Freeman

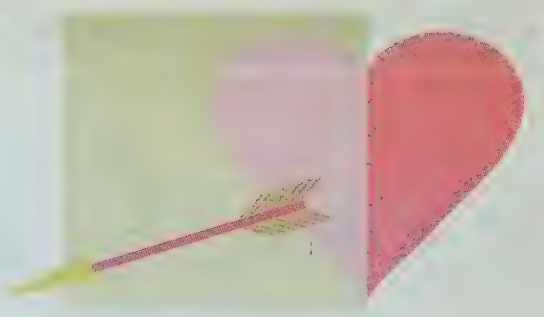
DON'T YOU WISH?

PHOTO BY SIMON BURROUGHS

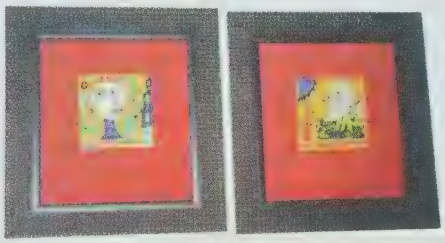
AROUND she gets valentine's day



HANDS OF AFFECTION Give him time to make time—with you! These soft felt clocks take Salvador Dali a step further and come in an assortment of bold, bright colours. Steel push-pins for attaching them to walls are included. Available at Blue Infusion, 614A 17th Ave. SW, Calgary.



FIZZ FETISH It's what we'd see if we could look into the naughty dreams of cheap sparkling wine (Asti Spumante, you tawdry thing, you!). This tasty, dominatrix-inspired bottle of bubbly is the result of a collaboration between Piper Heidseick and Jean-Paul Gaulthier and is sure to "take charge" of all five senses. Available by order through MetroVino in Calgary (722 11th Ave. SW) or fine wine merchants everywhere.



ART OF YOUR HEART Why wear your heart on your sleeve when you can hang your affection on a wall? Choose something that best expresses your art's desire (and his) from a selection of posters, prints, and framed pieces (like the ceramic lovelies pictured above) from Prints Charming's extensive collection. This is also a great place to select the perfect frame for a portrait of one—or both—of you. Prints Charming is located at 1409 11th St. SW in Calgary.

WHO'S THE FAIREST? A gift that says "I care enough to let you know you have spinach in your teeth". Show him he's king—or queen—of your heart with this whimsical 'crown' mirror from Blue Infusion, 614A 17th Ave. SW, Calgary.

HOMO HA-HA Give the gift of laughter with a pair of tickets to Suzanne Westenhoefer, presented by Camp 181. This incomparable funny-girl returns to Calgary February 20, 2000 to perform at SAIT's Orpheus Theatre. Tickets are available at Rainbow Pride Resource Centre and A Woman's Place Bookstore. Showtime is 7 p.m.

BLAH BLAH BLAH Even if they don't spell out "I love you", the gift of words is always a welcome one. Raunchy, romantic, or reflective, books can often express the inexpressible with messages that keep on giving. Check your local bookseller for their selection of inspiring words. The titles shown here are available at Books & Books, 738A 17th Ave. SW, Calgary.

COMFORT AND JOY Show him it's possible to be fashionable *and* lazy with the help of Calgary's latest fashion destination, Purr. Crash-worthy pillows in luxurious patchwork fabrics and silk-screened shantung abound, as do generously-cut lounging shirts in a variety of colours and patterns. (The Asian-inspired number to the left promises style *and* fortune in good-luck red.) Purr is located in Calgary at 919 17th Ave. SW.

The queens of England

LEFT: STUART (AIDAN GILLEN)
RIGHT: NATHAN (CHARLIE HUNNAM)

by Benjamin Peters

Straight people in Britain no longer have to wonder what gay men do in bed.

Anyone who tuned into the gay soap opera *Queer As Folk* got a biology lesson as well as an eyeful. For those who didn't, there are also the best-selling, best-renting videos lining shelves in UK shops.

Queer As Folk is a phenomenon in Britain and the European countries which bought the eight-episode, four-and-a-half-hour series that caught a nation off guard.

The show ran on Britain's Channel Four over a period of three months in the spring of 1999. Averaging two million faithful viewers, it became the second-highest rated show on Channel Four next to *ER* and the eleventh-highest rated TV show in Britain for those three months.

Not bad for a show people predicted would outrage straight audiences, critics and censors alike. The misguided consensus was that straight people didn't want to delve into the real lives of their gay counterparts. The show's detractors were convinced mainstream audiences would be turned off by the way gay men talked, thought and loved.

Queer As Folk proved them wrong, wrong, wrong on all counts.

The reason?

The show is a well-written, uncompromising, brutally honest story of two friends living in the gay community of Manchester, England.

Stuart (Aidan Gillen) and Vince (Craig Kelly) are both twenty-nine and have been friends since they came out at age twelve. In all those years they have been the best of friends but never lovers, though Vince dreams of that possibility.

Stuart is a true libertine who spices up his life with a series of one-night stands.

Vince never seems to be able to connect, so he lives vicariously through Stuart's conquests.

In the first episode, Stuart picks up Nathan (Charlie Hunnam), a fifteen-year-old school boy determined to lose his virginity. And he does so in the most graphic of details.

Were those stodgy old Brits horrified?

To be certain, some were. But more were intrigued and became increasingly so as the story progressed.

Nathan turns into the one-night-stand who won't go away. He even moves in with Vince's gay-sympathetic parents to be near Stuart and Vince actually finds a lover.

And life goes on, and on, and on as it does in all soap operas with a new surprise, character, complication or revelation every ten minutes.

The success of *Queer As Folk* hasn't escaped American TV producers, especially when they got a whiff of its potential appeal at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Film Festival last July. All eight episodes played in succession to a cheering, enthusiastic (predominantly male) audience.

The HBO Network quickly contacted Russell T. Davies, the show's thirty-five-year-old creator, about setting up a deal to create an American version of *Queer As Folk*. The deal eventually fell through because HBO couldn't decide whether it wanted the American version to be a five-hour mini-series or an open-ended series like its popular *Sex In The City*.

Now the deal has gone to Showtime, the network that proudly announces it has no limits. That's definitely encouraging to filmmaker Joel Schumacher, who has been hired to direct the two-hour pilot episode of the American *Queer As Folk*.

"I have a feeling there will be limits to those no-limits," says Schumacher, who felt he was pretty fearless when it came to writing and directing his drag queen movie *Fearless*.

"We have a situation where a twenty-nine-year-old man deflowers a fifteen-year-old boy. Some people—even in the homosexual community—feel that feeds into a dangerous stereotype.

"Stuart is not a pedophile. He's horny and Nathan is looking to lose his virginity. Whether we can actually deal with that situation will remain to be seen," Schumacher says.

"In Britain, the episode raised such controversy that it may be responsible for getting the legal age limit for consenting males dropped from eighteen to sixteen."

Schumacher says he is going to set the American version in New Jersey "to preserve the working class atmosphere of the show. It just wouldn't be the same if it were set in New York, San Francisco or Los Angeles."

STUART AND NATHAN SHARE A HOME-MADE MOMENT IN QUEER AS FOLK

Meanwhile, back in Britain, audiences have been hounding Channel Four for some kind of conclusion to the story they followed so faithfully. In the series, outcomes were left ambiguous.

Davies has written and filmed a two-part final chapter which will be broadcast this month in Britain. He promises that "loads of people are going to hate the ending. It won't be what people expect. It's not going to be nice and comfortable for them.

"A lot of people in Britain have made heroes out of Stuart, Nathan and Vince. What happens in the conclusion will test the fans' faith in these three people. They're not going to be as easy to love as they might have been in the original series."

There are some very intriguing statistics when it comes to that incredibly loyal fan base for *Queer As Folk:* more than half the audience was female, and the bulk of the fan mail came from young women.

Like almost everyone, the die-hard fans were shocked to discover that the series' three lead actors are all straight and that Hunnam is nineteen, not fifteen.

The actors all admitted they were initially a bit leery about the explicit sex scenes. They weren't necessarily afraid of baring their all, but in being convincing.

Now they're equally nervous because they were so convincing that people are certain they're gay.

Queer As Folk is a long overdue Valentine to gay love. It will prove interesting to see whether it really does get delivered to America.

CENTRE AND RIGHT: VINCE (CRAIG KELLY)

REVIEWS

reviews by Cory Loshney

Quickies 2: Short Short Fiction on Gay Male Desire Edt. James C. Johnstone Arsenal Pulp Press, Vancouver B.C., Canada. 1999.

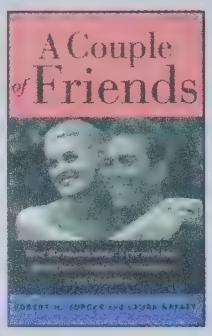
Editor Johnstone has combed the world (well, seven countries) to produce this collection, building from the popularity and support of his first anthology. He was able to skim the cream of contributors spanning continents and build an anthology that has something for everyone. There were only two rules imposed in the creation of this book: the stories were to focus on desire, and do so in 1000 words or less.

This is not an erotic collection along the lines of *Come Quickly* (Masquerade Books, 1996) or a strictly literary effort; rather, it's one that covers the middle ground of fiction about sex. Not all of the action is graphic (but most is!) and even the raunchiest stories create an emotional connection, a sense of poignancy or a new way of looking at lust. Readers are not expected to squirrel themselves away with a tub of lube (although that would help), but asked to take time to digest the book's contents. There are stories here that will grab you by the head, heart, balls—or all three.

The wide pool of talent tapped for these stories lends itself to an amazing scope of themes, loosely bunched into related groups. There are stories about childhood, first times, last times, dominance, revenge, true love, fun, religion, etc. I can't possibly claim that each of these pieces will have the same pull for everyone, but it's safe to say that there is enough here to capture any interest. Even those stories that may be unfamiliar enough to draw the reader in as an observer are thoughtful and engaging, certainly worthy of attention. Most of the pieces, however, have elements common enough to gay experience that they will spark some kind of emotional response.

If there is fault to find with *Quickies 2*, it lies in its lack of racial themes; we're given almost exclusively white perspectives on gay desire. What of the aboriginals and immigrants of the post-industrial countries from which the authors were chosen? There is one fine exception, "Prolonged Exposure" by Sandip Roy, that mixes a health club, Thai food, and desire between races. It stands out by itself.

All in all, this is a fine read for Valentine's Day or any other time of the year (any upcoming holidays planned?). It will spark both passion and conversation when shared with a partner (particularly if you're reading to one another) or if left around the house with the best stories marked. You may even wish to enjoy it during 'quiet' times alone. If that doesn't work, just imagine the great date ideas here for the taking!



A Couple Of Friends The Remarkable Friendship Between Straight Women And Gay Men Robert Hopcke and Laura Rafaty Wildcat Canyon Press, Berkely, Ca, USA; 1999

At first glance, with its striped cover and smiling couple, *A Couple Of Friends* promises to be a soft and, well, friendly read. And it's exactly that. Assembled by a pair who, themselves, became fast friends, the book is a collection of experiences paired with a light commentary relating to the "remarkable friendship" between gay men and straight women. Hopcke and Rafaty follow a simple format, with subjects grouped into short chapters composed primarily of relevant anecdotes.

What we don't get here is any of the hard analysis that we've come to expect from modern gender studies. We aren't subjected to the statistics, hypotheses, conclusions and all of the barely understandable new terms that gender theorists seem to love so much. Instead, this is really more social commentary, intended to describe and relate rather than classify and explain.

However, exceptions abound, such as the chapter near to the end on projection. After moving through shopping, cruising, love talk, and the 'forbidden' attraction, we are treated to a more traditional Jungian discourse, one that provides some explanation of the remarkable strength of these relationships. The argument boils down to the potential and space that straight women and gay men have with each other to express otherwise buried parts of their personalities.

Even so, it remains an easy read, though one not easily dismissed. The authors accomplish several things between the pages, the first being a good look at relationships that are all too easily passed off, even when we're involved ourselves. We get an idea of the depth, support and intimacy that is possible between 'fags' and 'hags' and, perhaps most importantly, some sense of the widespread and prevalent nature of these friendships. The relaxed language and anecdotal style is easy to relate to, the issues and experiences are common enough to feel 'comfortable', and there is plenty to learn from the widespread experiences in *Friends*. Now if only we could get straight men to read this!

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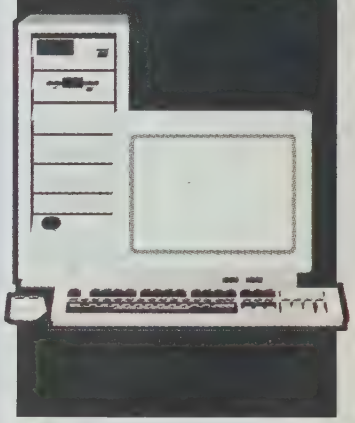

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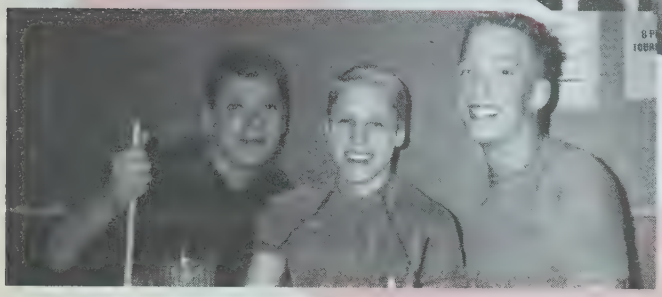
OUT & ABOUT IN EDMONTON

(RICE) BOSOM BUDDIES: Twiggy (centre) with pals (from left) Jeanette, Scott and Ian at the Roost's AIDS fundraiser.

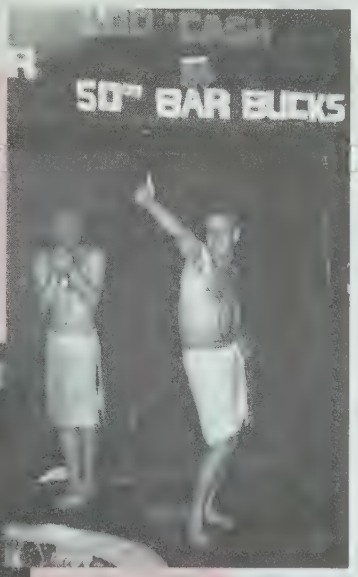


BAR STARS: Billiard boys at Buddy's.

ANIMAL FRIENDLY: Ida Claire, Twiggy and Toötsenelda work the "*Wild Kingdom* wet-dream look" at Secrets.

CORPORATE COLLECTIVE: The board of the Edmonton Rainbow Business Association 2000 (from left): Mike Pomponio, president; Barb Kulikowki, vice president; David Ushko, treasurer; Bill Faulkner, secretary.

DOUBLE DARE?: Antonio works the crowd at Buddy's.



(RIGHT) VICTORIOUS, HAPPY AND GLORIOUS...: Robert, first place winner at the Buddy's Wet Underwear Contest.
(BELOW) KEEPING IT BRIEF: Tex and Blake, second-place winners at the Buddy's event.

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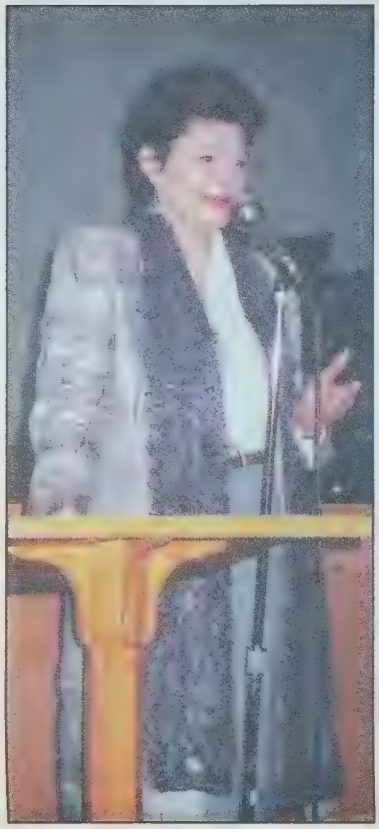
Community safety of Chief concern



IN THE NEWS

Over 150 members of the gay and lesbian community braved the cold on the night of January 12 to attend a "town hall"-style meeting with Calgary Police Chief Christine Silverberg. The event, held in the auditorium of the Colonel Belcher Hospital, was organized in conjunction with the Gay/Lesbian Community Police Liaison Committee as an opportunity for Chief Silverberg to discuss her ideas about safety in all minority communities.

Specifically, the issue of hate crimes was of primary concern, with discussion focusing on the nature, reporting and prevention of such crimes.

In her initial prepared address, Chief Silverberg spoke of being "a woman in a leadership position in the non-traditional area of policing" and having "personal experience with the power of myths and assumptions." She also stressed that "in my deepest core values and beliefs, I am strongly committed to diversity, the dignity of individualism, to uphold the precious achievement of individual potential and development of talents."

CHIEF CHRISTINE SILVERBERG AND CONSTABLE JIM AMSING

A question and answer period followed, raising such issues as community involvement in the prevention of hate crimes and police procedure in handling such offenses.

Also in attendance were: Deputy Chief Rick Hanson, Bureau of Community; Deputy Chief Peter Copple, Bureau of Strategic Initiatives; Sergeant Tom Hewitt, Cultural Resource Unit; Constable Doug Jones, Hate/Bias Crime Coordinator & Police Liaison Gay/Lesbian Community; Constable Jim Amsing, Community Liaison Officer; Constable Rob Humeston, Victim Assistance Unit.

The Gay/Lesbian Community Police Liaison Committee was established in May of 1996, with its first official meeting taking place in June of that same year.

This initiative to establish a clear and effective link between the community and the police has developed successfully since that time. Individuals interested in offering their assistance with the Gay/Lesbian Community Police Liaison Committee may do so by contacting Constable Doug Jones at 268-8319.

—Outlooks staff

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Random thoughts on a winter's day

by John Coulbourn

Is it just me, or does the world really slow down in the first few months of a new year?

It's almost as if, having wound itself up tighter than a top for the annual Christmas and New Year's celebrations, time has had to take a bit of a breather before it hits full stride again.

Whatever the reason, as January and February make their dolorous march toward the promise of spring—surely a longer and more inhospitable trek than Napoleon's celebrated retreat from Moscow—I find myself noticing more of the "fine print" of daily life.

And wondering just what in blazes is going on.

What idiot, for instance, decided that every four years, we should add an extra day to February?

Oh, I know all the mathematical stuff about leap years—how every year is really 365 *and-a-quarter* days long and how, if we didn't add a day to our calendar every four years or so, we'd end up (after a millennium or two) celebrating Christmas in July amd Valentine's on Halloween.

But February?

I mean, the month already feels longer than the Trans-Canada Highway with no rest stops. Why not add it to June, where it would do some good?

Another thing I thought about was the whole business of child porn—something that I will quickly point out I have not even the remotest interest in.

Further, I don't think John Robin Sharp is the kind of fella I'd want to spend a lot of time with.

But I do have a fantasy life.

In fact, we all do. And because we all do, we should be very afraid of the flawed legislation that is currently in front of the Supreme Court—legislation that comes dangerously close to attempting to police not just deeds, but thoughts as well.

In our society's zeal to protect children—a worthy cause, I hasten to add—our legislators seem prepared to sacrifice some pretty major basic human freedoms.

Even for those cursed with virtually no imagination whatsoever, it's got to be a scary notion.

Today, under existing legislation it is illegal to doodle about your fantasies of sex with minors. Tomorrow, you could end up in jail for fantasizing about running over your neighbor with that ride-'em lawnmower he insists on firing up every Sunday morning at 7 a.m.

(Worst of all, even though legislators know that this is a flawed law, they've thrown it to the Supreme Court to have it straightened out, ensuring that the Court will once again be wrongly vilified for simply doing their job.)

As a writer, I can well understand the

concerns that thinking people have with this kind of flawed law—but try as I might, I just can't get my head around all the concern about the fact that the Canadian census will be counting cohabiting gays next year.

I mean, this seems to be a no-brainer, for a community the size of which can't even be stated with any certainty by its members.

While it's all well and good to say that it doesn't matter, the reality is that size most certainly does count, at least in terms of community. If it didn't we wouldn't have clung for so long to that whole ten percent notion—a statistic that a lot of us, when pushed or not, have been forced to admit is probably somewhat of an overstatement.

In a democracy—rule by majority with suitable protection for the rights of minorities—the fact remains that there is strength in numbers. But to tap into that strength we must first know what those numbers are. And that's speaking as both a member of the gay community and the broader one as well.

Sure, I suppose there is a chance that some zealot will snatch control of the government and use those anonymous statistics to nefarious ends. There's a chance, too, that Ralph Klein and Mike Harris might end up married to each other some day—and as both possibilities are equally remote, just sit down and shut up until it's time to be counted. Or June 31st, whichever comes first.

John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.

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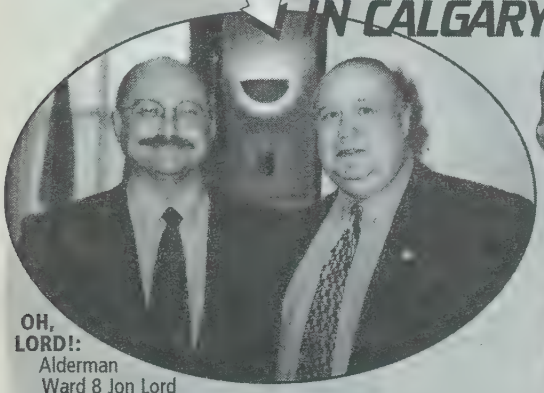
OUT & ABOUT IN CALGARY

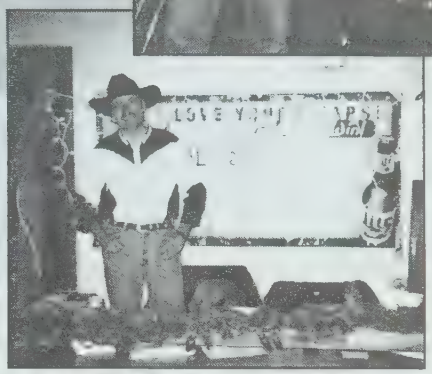
A POLICE LIAISON: Chief Christine Silverberg with Gay/Lesbian Community Police Liaison Committee co-chair Richard Gregory.



OH, LORD!: Alderman Ward 8 Jon Lord with Edmund Oliviero of the United Nations at the Manifesto 2000 International Year For A Culture Of Peace launch to which the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation was invited.

LOOKING SHARP: (from left) Carla, Terry and Penny of the SHARP Foundation/Beswick House at their "Ukrainian" Christmas party.

COMMUNITY COOPERATION: Bryan of ARGRA and Margaret of Apollo at the recent mixer dance for the two groups.



(ABOVE) IN THE CHUTE: Alan Frank manning the ARGRA booth at the January 15 dance.

GROUP DYNAMIC/DYNAMIC GROUP: Crazy Horse Theatre's Steve Gin (far left) with the cast of *Only Drunks and Children Tell The Truth* at the Pumphouse Theatre.

(RIGHT) DEE-LIGHTED: *Outlooks* contributor Andrew Clelland basks in the glow of Dee Fontans, contributing designer for the upcoming Calgary Cares at the prostate fundraiser.

(ABOVE) GLEE-SOME THREESOME: Gary Holland, of the AIDS Calgary board of directors, with the *Sun*'s Susan Booker and Senator Ron Ghitter at the Bill Brooks prostate cancer fundraiser.

STRONG FOUNDATION: Attendees at the SHARP Foundation open house at Beswick House: (back row) Terry Bryant, Mark Randall, Tim Leal; (middle) Frances Gordon, Carla Piasta, Walter Beswick, Bonnie Lewin; (front) Doug Stuart and Penny Archer.

CROWN ROYALTY: (from left) John, Christine, and Michael of Crown Surplus at the fundraiser.

THE 'A' LIST: Benefit organizer Bill Brooks flanked by A-Channel anchors Robin Gill (left) and Liza Fromer.

Planning an event in Calgary? *Contact us at 228-1157 and we'll see about getting it covered in Out & About.*

Edmonton's got Wood

by Darrin Hagen

Someday, we'll all be trading stories of where we were when the millennium turned over.

For actor/writer/director Tom Wood (as for many working performers) the end of the year was spent on stage; in his case, playing the narrator in the Citadel production of Sondheim's *Into The Woods*.

"Then, Bob and I went to his office and had champagne and danced to the new Santana album," Wood recalls. "And then we went out into the square to watch the fireworks. Bob loves fireworks. He likes to be right out in the middle of them."

Bob, of course, is Bob Baker, artistic director of the Big Brick Playhouse (profiled in the February '99 *Outlooks*). And the turn of the century marked not just the end of an era, but the twenty-ninth anniversary of the night Tom Wood and Bob Baker stood on the sea wall in Vancouver and decided they were meant to be together: New Year's Eve, Winter of '69. In gay years, that's practically a millennium ago.

"I sometimes see straight friends of ours that have been together the same amount of time as Bob and I have, and they're breaking up," Wood says. "History with a person is important, and that much history needs hard work to preserve it. I want to say, 'Don't you want to fight for this?'"

Now, after living, working, and creating all over Canada, they reside in Edmonton. It's odd to be talking about the warmth of Alberta in January, but Wood is "deliriously happy... both our families are here. People are more accessible here. Toronto is all about cool; the west is all about passion. And heart."

And for Wood, it's also about landscape. "When you're away, you miss the view. I had a friend once who landed on the prairies, and was nervous because the sky is so big, you feel like you'll fall into it. For me, it brings an enormous feeling of well-being. I remember that in my bones."

In 1972, Wood graduated with a BFA at the U of A. "My first year in University, I still wasn't out," he remembers. "I was a hayseed, a nerd. I

TOM WOOD
photo courtesy of Citadel Theatre

was living behind a wall. I had gone to a Catholic school and I loved my religion. But to be an actor, I had to find out who I was."

He tells of a time he was in Vancouver with his friend Marc Connors (of The Nylons). "I couldn't tell him, even though he came out to me."

Later, in his disenchantment with the Church proper, he found himself "running out of the church screaming. I wasn't being forgiven for being myself. When sixty percent of the population aren't viable according to the powers that be, there's a problem. Now, I find my religion in my garden, in the people around me. There's as much God in the people I know as there is in the church."

It was during an attempt to set up an actress friend of his with "the cute new guy" in class that he met Baker. Like Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, "I was playing matchmaker... throwing dinner parties and inviting him so she could get to know him." Like Puck in *Dream*, nature had its own ideas. Later, in Vancouver, Wood and Baker realized they were becoming more than just acquaintances. To this day, Wood's actress friend hasn't forgiven him for it.

It was also in Vancouver that Wood wrote his first play, *North Shore Live*, with Nicola Cavendish. The piece was written on a dare and ended up being outrageously successful. *B Movie: The Play* followed (directed by Baker during his Edmonton Phoenix Theatre reign); when the show toured Canada, it established Wood as a Canadian writer/performer to be reckoned with. *Claptrap* came next, a satire of Stratford/Shaw-type theatre festivals.

In April, Wood will be directing Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He has performed the role of Puck twice in the park in Toronto. What will be different about this experience for him?

"For one thing, it's indoors," he laughs. The set will be designed by the visionary Bretta Gerecke.

"It's my very favourite Shakespeare. For years, everyone's been plumbing it to get to its dark side. I'd like to get back to the play. It's joyous. It's bright. It was written as a wedding gift, as an exploration of love. Three worlds are woven, coming together in the most astonishing way, like petals of a flower."

It's not surprising that Wood chooses a floral metaphor. His respect for nature becomes obvious when he starts talking about the one thing he does miss back east in St. Mary's, Ontario: his garden.

"Three ponds, perennials everywhere. I was out there at 6 a.m. with my coffee. There's phlox, lilies, othello...

"I have lunch there, read, write, research. Nature displays this beautiful logic. It *wants* to grow, to thrive. And nature loves humankind, in spite of what we sometimes do to it.

"All nature wants to do is give to you."

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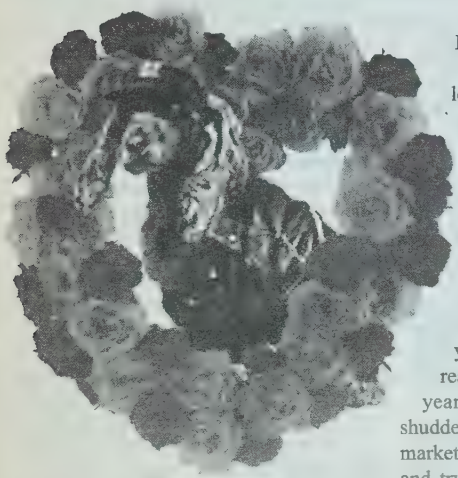
Dear Freddy...

What you pups need is some tough love!



Dear Freddy,

My snookums and I will be celebrating our fifth anniversary this Valentine's Day and I want to make sure it's really special. The past few years we've had a quiet candlelit dinner together, but this year I want to do something a bit wild for my honey-bunny. Do you have any ideas?

Passionate and Puzzled

Dear Puzzled,

Good lord! Until I received your letter I never even entertained the notion that Teletubbies really could be gay but, honey, you've proven me wrong. What's up with the "snookums" and "honey-bunny" routine? Are you porking Captain Kangaroo? Fred Rogers? Raffi? Geez, Puzzled, you sound like you're a real demon in the sack, with that potty mouth of yours and everything. If this year is really special for you (that whole 'five years' thing is really making me shudder—at least you two are "off the market") I suggest you skip the baby talk and try doing it with the lights on. You wild thing, you.

Hugs, Fred

Dear Freddy,

I'm a young gay man living in a small town in rural Alberta. My problem is this: how do I meet other gay people—especially my own age—without driving into Calgary or Edmonton?

Lost & Lonely in the Foothills

Dear Lost,

I can't believe you're fretting about being a small town homo in rural Alberta—where the hell do you think all the ones in Calgary and Edmonton came from? (Okay, besides the bitter ex-Vancouverites and Torontonians). What you need to do, sweetheart, is *advertise*.

Now, I don't recommend standing at the side of the road wearing a sign that says "Last Fag Before Freeway" or anything like that, but you might want to try something a little more subtle. The next time you do drive in to "get you some" why not pick up one of the more subtle examples of rainbow jewellery? It'll be a sly little beacon for other closeted gay boys and, for the unenlightened (read: those not quite as light in the loafers, cowboy boots, whatever) it'll just be a cheesy little accessory. Besides, if anyone asks just tell them you're a volunteer for that organization that takes sick children to Disneyland or wherever.

Hope this helps, Fred

Dear Freddy,

I'm feeling really guilty right now about something I did behind my boyfriend's back a few weeks ago, totally spur of the moment. I joined in with a guy who was "spanking the monkey" in a public washroom. We didn't touch each other and barely made eye contact—but we both still got off. Is this cheating?

Regretful in Ramsay

Dear Regretful,

Where do you people get these ideas? I hardly think a quick round of 'nick-knack-paddy-whack' counts as adultery. Do you relieve yourself this way at other times *without* strangers around? Of course you do—you're a guy. Still, making a habit of tag-team todger-flogging could lead to other things. Here's a good rule of thumb: if you come and it gets on someone else (who's not your boyfriend) you're sloppy; if someone else (who's not your boyfriend) comes and it gets on you, you're cheating. Word to the wise.

F.

Write to me, dears!

All letters become the property of *Outlooks* and are subject to editing.
Write to: Dear Freddy, c/o Outlooks, Box 439, Suite 100, 1039 17th Ave. S.W. Calgary, AB T2T 0B2, or e-mail to outlooks@cadvision.com

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O² news — RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN EDMONTON

O²'S PURPOSE

To provide a variety of opportunities for individuals to enjoy recreational, social and outdoor activities together in the hope of building a stronger les/bi/gay community. O² exists to bring people with similar interests together and to offer quality social alternatives. Have fun and meet new people... get involved!

HOW O² WORKS

✦ O² is a member-run group in which members organize activities for their fellow members to enjoy. All activities are self funded—some are free.

✦ The types of activities members organize are only limited by their imaginations. The variety of activities is amazing! Generally, you don't need much experience to participate in most activities—if you have any questions about the required skill level, equipment needed, etc., don't hesitate to call the activity coordinator.

✦ Activity planning meetings are held six times per year. At these meetings, volunteers brainstorm, discuss, and organize future activities.

MAKING WAVES SWIM CLUB

Making Waves, Edmonton's swim club for the gay, lesbian and bisexual community, and their friends, will be hosting its 1st annual Family Day Sprint Meet at the Bonnie Doon Leisure Centre (8205 90th Avenue) Saturday, February 19th, 2000.

We have organized individual swimming and relay events in the 8 lane, 25 m pool at Bonnie Doon, as well as a number of fun relays around the more competitive events. Afterwards, an awards ceremony will have door prizes and presentation of the team trophy. For participants from out of town, a number of our club members have offered their homes for billets.

Making Waves is a not-for-profit swim club that practices the master's swimming philosophy of "Fun Fitness Friendship & Participation " in a gay positive and supportive environment. We attempt to provide a recreational, competitive and socially active atmosphere in which each member may, at his or her option, participate. To this end, Making Waves accommodates both recreational and competitive swimmers. Coaching is offered to assist with technique and fitness development, and we encourage each participant to swim at their own pace and comfort level. Beginning swimmers are encouraged to come out and learn how to swim.

Our coaching staff is top notch with many years of teaching and coaching experience. They enjoy introducing new swimmers to the sport, and participants with a competitive outlook will benefit from a structured and progressive, goal-oriented workout program.

Whether you swim for fun and fitness, or want to develop a more competitive edge, our practices every Thursday (8:30 to9:30 pm) and Sunday (8:00 to9:30 pm) have something for everyone. This year, our Sunday swims will include three coaches and two lanes dedicated to recreational activities at a relaxing and enjoyable level. After each swim, we meet at the Second Cup on Whyte Avenue to cool down with some hot drinks and lively conversation.

Everyone's first swim is free. There, you'll get an information and registration packet that will fill you in on all the details. For more information about Making Waves Swim Club, or our upcoming Family Day Sprint Meet (including registration information and events), check out our webpage at http://www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm/home.htm , or email us at makingwaves_edm@yahoo.com. Come on out and see why Making Waves is one team that lives up to its name!

ARCTIC FRONTRUNNERS

We're still out there on the trails kicking up our heels in the snow. We must live up to our, perhaps foolish, name. We meet in the lobby of the Kinsmen Recreation Centre on Sunday mornings at 11 and run for about 45 minutes on the river valley trail system. We have a -15 C rule, if the temperature is below that we don't run. On the social side, just before Christmas we had a post-run potluck brunch. Cookies and Stories by Gerald. Thanks, Martin, for organizing and hosting this event and to to all who proved they could cook at least as well as they run. For more information on FrontRunners call Bill at 436-7892.

BADMINTON

After a bit of a hiatus, a badminton group is re-establishing itself in Edmonton's queer community. Birdie-smashers of all skill levels please come out and support this new activity. The group plays on Monday evenings from 8 PM-10 PM at Rosslyn School 13215 113A St. The cost is $40/season or a $5 drop in fee. For more information contact Bruce at 453-1244 (after 1 PM please) or e-mail smashers99@hotmail.com. Hats off to Bruce for doing all the work needed to organize a new activity.

CURLING

The curling crew continues to slip, slide, sweep, and throw their rocks on Sunday afternoons. Curlers, from the highly skilled to novices, meet from 2-4 at the Granite Curling Club, 8620 107 St. Because of bonspiels etc. the Granite is only available to us about two Sundays per month. The roster of curling dates is: Feb. 13, 20, 27; Mar. 26; and Apr. 2. There is a drop in fee of $8 and brooms and slidders can be rented at the club for $3. Lance has once again taken on the task of organizing curling, for more information he can be reached at 479-5308.

SWIMMING

Making Waves, Edmonton's lesbigay swim club, welcomes all levels of swimmers from those just getting into the water to hard-core competitors. Coachs are on-hand each at each practice for tips and workouts. The group swims at the Bonnie Doon Leisure Centre, 8205 90 Avenue, on Thursdays (8:30-9:30 PM) and Sundays (8:00-9:30 PM). There is an annual fee of $25 to support the club and the pool admission fees of $5 daily, $30 monthly, or $85 trimonthly. If you would like to give Making Waves a try, the first night's swim is free. In addition to aquatic activities, Wave Makers socialize over a post-swim coffee at the Seond Cup on Whyte and at club social events. This winter's swimming schedule is: February 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27 (4 Sundays, 4 Thursdays).

Mike, Wave Maker Web Master, has built a web site for the group. Check it out at: www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm/home.htm. Additionally, Making Waves has an email address: makingwaves_edm @yahoo.com . For more information call Gregg at 455-9631.

Making Waves is in the process of organizing its first swim meet on the Family Day long weekend, February 19-21, 2000.

VOLLEYBALL

Recreation League

This league is designed for those volleyball enthusiasts who want to play volleyball but are not interested in highly competitive play. The focus for this league is on fun and social game play. There will be some basic skill instruction if requested. You can drop in any night but note that the school has reserved some nights for its own activities, check with the organizers to confirm nights of play if you are unsure.

Location: Hillcrest Elementary/Junior High School, 16400 80 Ave

Time: Wednesdays from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dates: until Apr 16, 2000

Cost: $35 per person for the season

Contact: Rick at 474-6785 or downeyw@ telusplanet.net for further information

Skills Development/Intermediate League

This league is designed for players who have the basics (i.e. bumping, setting, hitting, serving, etc.) down and would like to concentrate on refining these skills through drills and improving games sense through practice. Intermediate players will also learn on court offensive and defensive formations and game strategy. Note that the school has reserved some nights for its own activities, check with the organizers to confirm nights of play if you are unsure.

Location: Ross Sheppard Composite High School, 13546 111 Ave

Time: Mondays from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dates: until May 29, 2000

Cost: $50 per person for the season

Contact: Darcy at 425-7316 for further information

Tournaments

Preparation is underway for the Western Cup in Calgary. The tournament will be during the Easter long weekend. Edmonton players interested in playing on a team or further registration information should contact Andrew at 780-435-9379 or ftb.volleyball@telusplanet.net.

Additional Information

For further information regarding the volleyball association go to www.telusplanet.net/ public/aschust/ftb.htm

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Make the most of "cheap" movie night by joining O2's long running movie group. Phone to find out what movie, when to meet and where (varies between the Princess Theatre, Westmount and Eaton Centre theatres). Join us for coffee afterwards too! Contact Kent 454-0313, no later than Monday, for more information.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE SYMPHONY

A lot of queer folk attend the symphony, wouldn't it be great if they could get to know each other better? Tim has initiated a new activity for the music lovers among us. Join other lesbigay folks for a night out at the Winspear Centre with the Edmonton Symphony

continued on page 31

continued from page 30

Orchestra and enjoy the "Magnificent Masters" series, which offers a diverse range of music from the last 200 years. Call the Winspear at 428-1414 for your ticket. We will meet on the top floor, by the big painting by the elevator, at 7:45, before the performance at 8:00. After, we can go for coffee at a downtown cafe.

For more information, call Tim at 474-6177. Dates (all Saturdays): 20 November, 8 January, 22 January, 19 February, 18 March, 1 April, and 13 May.

BOWLING

The Northern Titans Bowling League is a non-profit organization that supports the Edmonton gay and lesbian community. It is a fun, inexpensive night out for gays,lesbians, their friends and families. We play at the Pins and Cues Bowling Lanes in the Westmount Shopping Centre. The bowling goes every Saturday evening, 5 to 7 p.m., from September to April. Each week, most of the club goes out to dinner afterwards, to continue the friendships developed on the lanes. Join the fun and excitement of ten-pin bowling! The cost for members is $12 for three games. For more information call Garry at 454-8609 (e-mail davegarry@v-wave.com) or Kent at 454-0313.

Ice Breaking Bowlers

The 1999 ten-pin bowling portion of the IceBreaker tournament was held November 13 & 14th. Hosted by Pins & Ques in the Westmount Shopping Centre, it attracted 28 bowlers, 26 from Edmonton. Due to conflicting scheduling, only 2 bowlers came from Calgary, the rest chose to attend the midyear in Hawaii. Now, why would someone choose Hawaii over Edmonton??

Six games were bowled on Saturday and another three on Sunday. Other then arms and elbows falling off, fun was had by all. Dinner and the awards ceremony was held at Caroleís Cafe on 10145 & 104 Street amid much fanfare and prize giving.

Some of the weekend highlights included:

Jack's heart stopping tournament high game of 256 which included a string of 8 consecutive strikes.

Karla's win in both the singles and the all events.

Susan (from Calgary) discovered the hospitality of both the Edmonton Police and Edmonton Transit when she totaled her friend's car against an ETS bus when commuting to the bowling alley

If this sounds like frolicking fun, come join us every Saturday at Pins & Ques at 4:45.

POOL

Twice a week Buddy's Pub hosts a pool tournament open to all. These sharks are tame, competition is friendly with an emphasis on having fun and socializing. An added bonus is that many of the experienced players are very willing to help beginners improve their skills. The pool is free and the prizes are "Buddy's Bucks" redeemable at the bar. The format of the tournament is double knockout so every entrant plays at least two games. The tournaments happen every Tuesday at 8:00 PM and every Saturday at 4:00 PM. Buddy's Pub is upstairs at 10116 124 St, the entrance is from the side alley leading onto 124 St.

SINGING

Edmonton Vocal Minority

Calling women and men of all sexual orientations dedicated to sharing and preserving the cultural heritage of the Queer community. Everyone is welcome to join this mixed voice choir as either a singer or a support member. We meet Sunday afternoons from 2:00 to 5:00 in the Fine Arts Building on the U of A campus. New singers will be accepted at the rehearsals on Sunday, 6 or 13 February. Come and sing your pride!

For information: Telephone: 479-2038, E-mail: evm@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca, or check our web site at http://www.planet.eon.net/~toocute/evm/.

SKIING/SNOWBOARDING

Winter is definitely upon us and after a mild, snow-free December snow has fallen and gladdened the hearts of skiers. Barry has taken the initiative of organizing a new activity, weekly skiing and snowboarding at the local hill. Skiers of all skill levels are welcome to join the group at Rabbit Hill on Sunday mornings at 10. Call Barry or Linda at 455-8257 for further information. Thanks Barry, for starting this new group. If you know any skiers or 'boarders, please let them know about this new activity.

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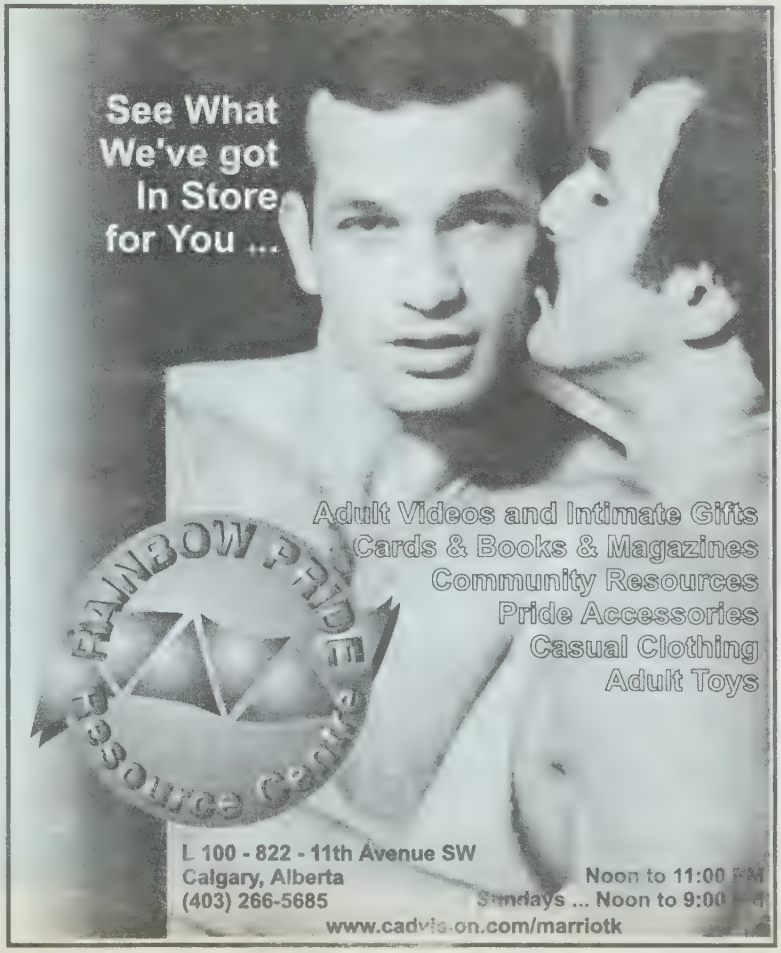


The new "girl" in town

AIDS CALGARY
awareness association

GLCSA

by Collin Smith, The Men's Project

Each year in February we recognize National Condom Week, a time to celebrate the condom and enjoy its many uses. This year, you'll find volunteers from AIDS Calgary on post-secondary campuses around the city from Feb. 9 until Feb. 16.

Here at The Men's Project, we thought we would use this occasion to discuss the newest safety feature on the block; the "female" condom. Now, you are probably thinking that you would have no use for something called the female condom; however, more and more men are turning to it for its advantages over the traditional choice. Since we at The Men's Project believe in gay men's right to choose when it comes to protecting themselves, we feel that introducing this alternative is another way of increasing choices for those men who choose to practice anal sex.

For those of you who haven't seen it, it looks like a regular condom, only larger. Instead of putting it on the penis, the receiver wears it. It can be inserted by finger or positioned by placing it over your partner's penis, however you decide.

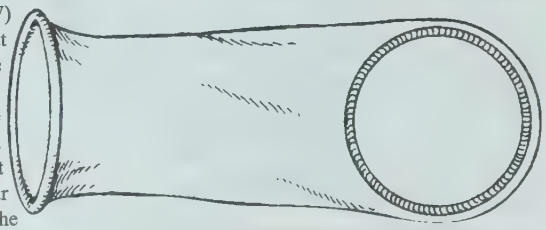
It is made out of polyurethane, which means that it is an alternative for those people who are allergic to latex. Also, it won't break down with oil-based products. With a regular condom, you must avoid using oil-based lubricants (such as Vaseline, hand cream, whipped cream, etc.) but the female condom allows you those options. So if you are into a little whipped cream for fun, this could be your ticket.

Those who use it say that the polyurethane transmits heat better than latex, so it feels more like unprotected sex. Also, it's not tight around the base of the penis and has a looser fit. For those of you who think that you're too big for regular condoms, the female condom could be an alternative for you.

Also, the end of the condom rests on the outside of the body, which helps reduce the risk of sexually transmitted diseases which are passed on through skin contact. In this way, it can protect you from a wider variety of STDs.

While there is no research yet on the effectiveness of female condoms during anal sex, the initial feedback has been very good. There is even talk of making some traditional condoms out of polyurethane, particularly with latex allergies on the rise.

We are interested in what you think. If you would like to try out these new condoms, stop by the offices at GLCSA (205A 223 12th Ave. SW) and pick up a pack that includes a female condom as well as regular condoms, lube and some other goodies. Then let us know how it went. Send your comments about using the female condom to mensproject@hotmail.com. We look forward to hearing how this new option fares with gay men.



BAREBACKING

Here are a number of your responses to our debate about barebacking (choosing not to use a condom when having anal sex). We wish to thank everyone who took the time to respond. We appreciate your interest in the subject and the diversity of opinions that were expressed. Obviously this is a subject that many of us feel very strongly about. Watch this space for a new hot topic soon and send your comments to mensproject@hotmail.com. Here are your letters:

I realize that the thought of having sex without the use of protection may be self-damaging to many in the gay community due to the AIDS epidemic, but I believe that most people still relish the feeling of unprotected sex.

I believe that people's want for that skin-to-skin contact is just as great as my own, and it's the fear of AIDS alone that prevents people from having unprotected sex. This same fear is also probably the cause of many to feel even more aroused and excited at the prospect of having unprotected sex. Not only the direct feel and pleasure of skin-on-skin contact, but it's the thought of doing something a bit dangerous or even forbidden to today's society that turns people on. It's that same feeling one might receive about having sex in a public place, where they might be caught.

So it's my belief that unprotected sex between two or more consenting and informed adults is okay, and should not be frowned upon or criticized by the community.

D. O.

I prefer to use a condom during anal sex for a number of reasons. AIDS is one but there are many others. I find it cleaner and easier. In the end it is more pleasurable for me to use a condom with my partner. It isn't always just about HIV, although that is another good reason to use one every time.

T. R.

[Barebacking is] a very risky sexual act, one that I would never perform with a guy unless I was 100% sure he was clean! The thought of it is a turn on in itself, though. I've been in situations where I'm sure the guy was ready to go bareback before I had to stop things and make sure he wore a condom. It's not worth the risk!

M. C.

I suspect that the issue is not a rise in barebacking as much as an increase in the discourse about barebacking.

I wholeheartedly agree with the notion that gay men have the absolute right to determine, each for himself, the degree of risk that they are willing to take in their lives, sexually and otherwise.

Additionally, I am offering a challenge to all gay men, especially health educators, writers and peer leaders: we managed to erase the military metaphors concerning AIDS (the war on AIDS, the battle for a cure, and so on) a long time ago. It is now time to erase the binarism of 'safe' and 'unsafe' sex. This notion buys into the radical right wing agenda of "love the sinner, hate the sin."

Let us remove the distinctions that separate the so-called good guys from the so-called bad guys.

Thank you for bringing this issue to the fore. It is time that we speak of our lives without associating stigma, shame or guilt with gay sex.

In pride and guilt-free,

M. B.

*After my initial shock, I was almost—*almost*—able to rationalize this (the trend toward barebacking). Having lost an ex to AIDS and another that has not got a good prognosis. Just wanted to share this with you!*

B. Y.

NATIONAL CONDOM WEEK: FEBRUARY 9 - 16, 2000

Look for us on post-secondary campuses across the city on these dates:

Feb 9	Mount Royal College
Feb 10	Bow Valley College
Feb 14	University of Calgary
Feb 15	SAIT
Feb 16	ACAD

Presentations will occur from 11am to 1pm on the above dates. Find us wherever large groups of people get together!

M2K

Thanks to all who responded to our surveys. We are currently analyzing the data which will be used in further development of The Men's Project. We will be sharing the results with you in these pages in the next few months. Keep an eye out!

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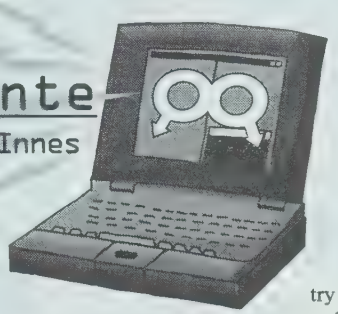
What do you think about barebacking? E-mail us at: mensproject@hotmail.com

the webutante

by Darren McInnes



by Darren McInnes

Living in Manhattan has taught me many things, but none so important as this: It's not what's inside that counts, it's what you wear. With that in mind, check out **www.boo.com**, the online store that flogs savvy sports and streetwear. However, if you're expecting to transform into a queer b-boy overnight—fugeddaboutit. This is more Backstreet Boys than DMX, particularly with Fred Perry, Final Home, Jil Sander and Helly Hansen peddling their upscale wares. Think of it as 'homo homeboy.' And sadly, clicking on "Tops" and "Bottoms" takes you to walking shorts and T-shirts, not a date for Saturday night. What a shame, seeing as how you can select color and size. Visually, the site is a stimulation overload. I signed-on first thing in the morning, pre-caffeine infusion, and was almost sent into cardiovascular shock by the whirling colors and graphics. Digital shopping as it should be—speedy and surreal.

At the newly created (and gay owned) **www.kleptomaniac.com**, the shopping continues, though the selection is much more limited for the time being. I'm not sure what photos of chickens and bacon and eggs have to do with fashion, but the text is clever. You want seatbelt bags for girls? Check under "Strap It On." Hmm, what other items could fall into that category? While you're thinking about that, how about picking up your own $410 USD Malatesta Rada Pashmina Shawl. "Imagine if air had color," they chime. Imagine if husbands had pause buttons, I reply. Besides, one particularly cranky fashion-rag editor recently sniffed that the wraps have become too popular and she only wears hers at home while watching TV. Same with my chaps, Miss Scar Marks Beneath Your Ears.

Did Barbara Streisand really star in a porno flick? Oy vey, Yentl, say it isn't true. According to an urban legend, *Funny Girl* just might have done the video nasty (the footage is grainy, but the nose, apparently, is unmistakable). It adds a whole new meaning when she sings, "People who need people," does it not? You can discover this tasty gossip treat and others at **www.urbanlegend.com**. Just as spooky is the Death at Disneyland section, where various gruesome events in the Magic Kingdom are retold with ghoulish delight. I will never look at a pirate from the Caribbean the same way again.

Need a dose of Martha without that overwhelming sense of inadequacy? If so, check out **www.brinimaxwell.com**, where the domestic goddess of the underground espouses the virtues of vintage linens and caring for the infirm. If loose stools are your problem (first cancel your date for tonight) then follow Brini's acronym, BRATT: Bananas, Rice, Applesauce, Tea, and Toast. Is it any wonder that Ms. Maxwell just won a Glammy in New York for Best Television Performer? She's beautiful, smart, and she cares about your colo-rectal health. Speaking of which, her recipe for Matzoh-Ball soup is just one of the Epicurean highlights on this freshly-painted pastel site.

You might want to slip into **www.sneerzine.com** before it vanishes, as its cranky creator has threatened that sneerzine will cease in the near future. No great loss, really. As catchy as some of the articles' titles are—"STD, Easy as 1-2-3"—the writing is littered with excessive bitterness and expletives. Note to writers: too much acrimony and use of the f-word doesn't make you sound witty, it makes you sound tired and uneducated. Elsewhere, however, there was an engaging interview with Palanca, a South American erotic artist who does for feet what Tom of Finland did for dicks. Anyone inspired by both Rouault *and* Scooby Doo must have something going for him. There's also a cartoon called "Church and State," another near-future Nazi parable where the religious right takes over and homosexuals are interred in camps. Been there, done that. As for Dear Jennifer, her advice was nowhere near as fun as this question from Curious in California: "I was just wondering, was that story you told about Leonardo DiCaprio high on LSD in the bathroom giving all those guys head true?" I smell dish, do you smell dish?

What do you get when you put together a sculptor and two architects with a love of modern design and no money? Really pretentious cocktail conversation? No, apparently what you get is **www.bludot.com**. While the site and its creators have an unavoidable air of East Coast, art-school preciousness, the furniture they sell is functional, clean, and reasonably affordable. I quickly passed the go-cart bookshelves and headed to the food section where bludot employees and various hangers-on provide culinary tips. Mike Follet, a "Master Steel Fabricator," has a delicious sounding recipe for Pear Cake and Charlie Lazor's "Hot and Spicy Nuts" also caught my eye... I haven't personally tried Julie Pihaly's chicken curry salad, but I challenge her claim on the title of "Office Princess." You haven't worked with me yet, sugar. You'll look like an office plebian next to this corporate queen.

Planning a white-trash dinner party anytime soon? If so, stop at **www.topsecretrecipes.com** for your trailer park menu. The top secret recipes from every fast food joint you can shake a Rolaids at is here. As a starter, might I suggest Chili's Chicken Enchilada Soup followed by Koo Koo Roo's Santa Fe Pasta? For drinks, try Sunshine's Lemon Cooler and, naturally, Hostess Twinkies for dessert. If Bud, the hairy n' horny truck driver, happens to bunk overnight, fry him up a heap of I.H.O.P.'s Country Griddle Cakes—surely he'll return the tasty delight in trade.

It's all about being dirty at **www.banjee.com**, the online porn magazine for "people who don't like porn." This little 'zine has been around since '93 and has caught the attention of *Paper*, *The Source*, and even the *New York Times*. Those educated literary types are always the biggest kink fiends, aren't they? The creator/editor's rant against oppression, censorship and twinkie blonde boys is well taken but, in the end, you'll want to skip past the politics and head for the mighty real photos and gritty fiction. The best sex, after all, is free.

An even wider world of erotica exists at **www.projetx.com**, the online magazine that takes off where *Drummer* left off during its reign of greatness (long since passed, I might add). The subscription comes with a price tag, natch, but there's enough free links here to keep the calluses on your hand nicely polished off until the first crocus blooms. From Teddy of Paris to WeHo airheads, there are more photos, erotic art and sticky delights to give the Christian Right the biggest collective heart attack of their miserable existence. The site also has a heavy European influence and you know what that means. The biggest, raunchiest sex pigs live on the other side of the Atlantic—that's why we love them so much!

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Male to share large 3 bdrm Canyon Meadows, rent incl. utilities & basic phone. $400 monthly southwest. Call Frank 251-6073.

N/S, M/F to share 2 bdrm house, inner city, near Edm. Trail & 16 Ave. NE. $300.00 plus utilities. Hot tub and garage available. Call Gary 277-0048, avail. immediately.

Male/female to share 3 bdrm house NW close to all amenities. Good bus routes, some pets welcome. Call Bob 295-7549.

Two bedroom apt. in Kensington, avail now. Close to university, LRT, bike paths, non-smoker male preferred. $400/month, $300 DD, Rick 270-7238.

204 accommodations

205 accom. wanted

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Cute slim dark guy, 22 yrs, need a sincere companion to settle down. No one night stand please. I can travel. Quame Taylor, Box DC110, Dansoman Accra, Ghana W/A

I am a 32-year-old Russian who wishes to find new friends in Canada. My name is Andrew. I am a professional from Siberia now residing in Moscow. I'm 178 cm tall, 68 kilo, light blond hair, blue eyes. If somebody wants to write me by e-mail: Hogan.Malony@mail.USA.com and the ordinary address is Andrew, P.O. Box 7678, Krasnoyarsk, 660092 Russia.

Young, honest, handsome gay 19/178/65, would like to break solitude with your help. I need strong and sincere friendship. Let's plan our future together. I am waiting for your letters in English to: Alexandr Scherbec, P.O. Box 852, Kharkov-2, 310002, Ukraine

RUSSIAN boy from Ukraine, 22 y.o., 176 cm, 70 kg, very handsome, athletic, smooth, masculine, would like to meet an honest, sincere man for the real friendship and love. My address is: Vadim Ivanov, P.O. Box 8362, Kharkov-105, 310105, Ukraine

Brazilian HIV- GWM w/Mediterranean look, 37-180-94, out of drugs & non-smoking, abstentious, very romantic, w/tender soul & non-effeminate. Slightly possessive, stubborn, honest, reliable, frank & sincere, routine-minded, disciplined, widely-traveled, polyglot, graduate. Marcelo Reis, Poste Restante, 20001-970 Rio, Brazil.

Handsome, honest gay professional model, 25/183/72 would like to find good friends for friendship, maybe more. I hope you will break my solitude. Please write me in English to: Taitov Radion, Do Vostrebovania, Kharkhov-118, 310118, Ukraine

Boy from Ukraine, 20 y.o., very handsome, masculine, athletic, smooth, would like to meet a sincere and honest man for the real friendship. Please write to: Anatoliy Borovoy, P.O Box 1832, Kharkiv-24, 310024, Ukraine

Russian athletic soldier, 20yo/190 cm/88 kg, champion of Ukraine in swimming, very handsome, muscular and active, would like to meet sincere, romantic, warm-hearted, lonely friend for long-term relationship based on love, passion and faithfulness and for the common future in happiness and concord. Please answer me in English. Photo will be very appreciated. Please enclose international postage stamp—if possible, because my army service is free of charge. Ivan Karimov, PO Box 8782, Kharkov-2, 310002, Ukraine.

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www.squirt.org Guide to Gay Cruising in Alberta
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505 notices

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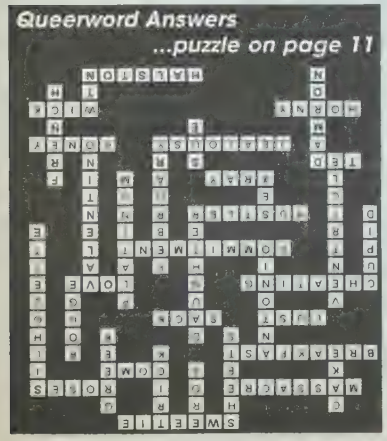
Queerword Answers
...puzzle on page 11



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EVENT LISTINGS

CALGARY

Next ARGRA dances: February 12 and March 11 at Victoria Park Community Centre. Visit www.canuck.com/~argra or call (403) 541-8140 for more information.

Rocky Mountain Cruisers Car Club February events: 15th, monthly meeting at 7 pm at Chickenhawks • 18th, World of Wheels - Roundup Centre • 19th, Lethbridge Swap Meet • Other activities - tech shop, Tea Dance Social. All are welcome to participate - call Jonathon on 403 229-1758.

3SM of Calgary presents their third annual 'The Ides of March' Fetish/Fantasy Workshop Weekend, March 10 & 11, 2000 to be held at the Calgary Multicultural Society Hall, 712-5 St. SE, Calgary. For more information call Don Bastian (403) 276-2471 or Stephen Lock (403) 266-9175.

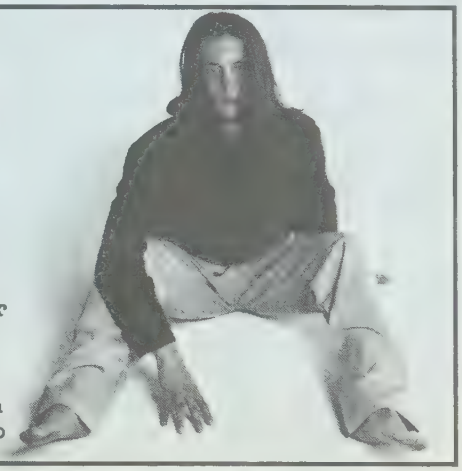
GLASS is hosting its annual Gender Bender March 10, 2000 at Max's Cafe at MacEwan Students Centre at the U of C. To get tickets contact 220-2872 or go to our website at www.ucalgary.ca/~glass. Tickets are $7.

Midnight Bowling: February 11, midnight, Mountainview Bowlerama. Tickets are $10. **Drag Time, Bedtime Stories**: February 25, 2000, a benefit for Beswick House (SHARP), at Rooks Bar and Beanery. Start time is at 9:00 pm.

EDMONTON

Orlando's Great Loves Fundraiser & Dance, Saturday, Feb. 12, 7 pm to 1 am, at Hazeldeen Hall, 9630 - 66 Ave. Tickets $10 advance, $12 door.

Queen of Hearts, sponsored by Interactive Male, Edmonton's Largest Gay Introduction Service. Great giveaways, prizes and memberships. "Meet Your Match" event Sunday, February 13 at the Roost Nite Club.



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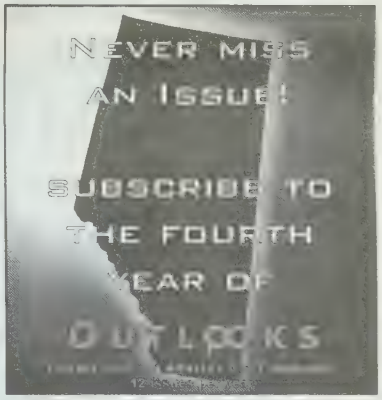

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CODE OF CONDUCT 2: DELIVERANCE

Featuring: Tom Chase, Dean Spencer, Jake Andrews, Dan Hughes, Steve O'Donnell, Matt Bradshaw, Kevin Wolf, Sky Thompson, Anthony Moore, Kyle Brandon, Steve Pierce, Adam Wilde

It's February. The weather's nasty, funds are slim and everyone's on edge. What better way to make the most of 'blah' month than to curl up at home with an "edgy" bit of porn. *Deliverance*, the second installment in Falcon's Code of Conduct series, walks (and sometimes crosses) the line between 'hardcore' and 'hardcore lite'. Think of it as big studio "vanilla" with a swirl of added flavour.

This *Deliverance* bears some resemblance to the '72 Jon Voight/Burt Reynolds thriller in that there is a considerable amount of "porking" going on—thankfully *not* involving Ned Beatty.

The film opens with a "blue rinse" enema scene in a brig infirmary and barrels forward without once looking back. Following is a glory hole "test", with our hapless lead prisoner giving it the old college try on a seemingly endless parade of proffered penises (thirty-eight days worth, if we're to believe the sub-headers).

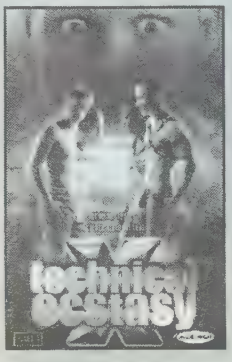
Next, a dog dish dinner scene (presided over by some horny gents decked out in fascist chic) leads into a meal of a different sort, as the prisoner is "loaned out" for the night. Jean Valjean never had it so good... This scene is followed by four randy bystanders getting involved by fitting themselves together like some sort of carnal Lego. In the end (and I do mean end), Herr Commandant—or whatever he's supposed to be—pounds the puppy chow out of his dog boy menagerie and sends them all off to a forced group workout. Woof!

Unlike most fetish (or fetish-wannabe) flicks, this release is a big-budget effort, with porn giant Falcon footing the bill. This is evident in everything from costumes and sets to music and men—a worthwhile effort all 'round. *Deliverance* is the perfect video for taking the edge off February—or putting one on...

Review sponsored by Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, L100 822 11th Avenue SW, Calgary, 266-5685

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★ SET: ★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★★ STORY: ★★★★
ACTION SCENES: ★★★★



TECHNICAL ECSTASY

From: Men of Odyssey - Mile High Video

Featuring: Derek Cameron, Jon Eric, Dean O'Connor, Tony Donovan, Chad Kennedy, Sandy Sloan, Marc Hamilton, Dennis Lincoln, Rob Hirk, Joe Romero, Sam Crockett, Brett Ford, Jason Rose

Running Time: 110 minutes

In a world where almost any fantasy can be realized, where do you go to find the next level? *Technical Ecstasy* provides some 21st century answers to these questions and creates a fantasy of what's in store for us in the new millennium. The high-tech age has come and this sci-fi porn movie leaves you hoping the future will soon be here.

When young hunk Dean O'Connor checks out a research laboratory he discovers the possibilities are endless as he morphs into a series of different characters, ranging from a marine to a black basketball player and several others in between. His fantasies become more satisfying than real life and his addiction to his new-found pleasure causes problems with his flesh and blood boyfriend. This doesn't slow Dean down, however, and his erotic pleasures gain momentum with each visit to the lab.

On each trip, he selects a new fantasy from a choice of that day's CD-ROM programs. The covers of the CD-ROMs hardly do justice to what's inside and Dean finds himself in for some really big surprises. Of course, he proves to be man enough to take whatever comes his way and shares everything with everyone that drops into his fantasy world. In a marine bunkhouse, this proves to be a monumentous task with six incredible military studs vying for each other's attention.

With each progressive visit, the fantasies appear more real and Dean soon realizes there is a fine line between an erotic dream and a sexual nightmare. It even becomes hard to differentiate between fantasy and reality.

Technical Ecstasy will leave you full of hope for the future and all its high-tech promises. You'll want to keep this one and ten years from now compare it to real life experiences.

Review sponsored by Express Video, #202 11745 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, (780) 482-7480. Email: exec.express@v-wave.com

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★ SET: ★★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★★ STORY: ★★★★
ACTION SCENES: ★★★★

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CALGARY
Community Groups

AIDS Calgary....2900
Border Riders Motorcycle Club....2088
Buck Naked Boys Club....2028
Calgary Men's Chorus....2043
Camp 181....2001
Different Strokes Swim Club....2058
Fairy Tales, Film Festival....2054
Fem to Fem Social Group (for women only)....2050
GLASS....2222
GLCSA....2052
I-Dentity....2036
Integrity....2020
Men's Domestic Conflict Help Line....2030
Men's Project....2016
Metropolitan Community Church....2010
PFLAG Calgary....2018
Pride Calgary....2850
Real Me....2056
Rocky Mountain Cruisers Car Club....2022
SHARP Foundation....2830
Society Housing AIDS Restricted Persons....2830
Speak Sebastian....2024
Team Calgary....2870
Victorian Matriarchal Academy....3210

CALGARY
Businesses

11 St Lodging....2450
Arena Coffee Shop....2432
Arena Nightclub....2437
Backlot....2438
Calgary Networking Club....2460
Detour....2434
Jane Oxenbury, M. Ed, Psych....2820
Jeffery's Boudoir Photography....2500
Loading Dock....2436
Money-Pennies....2444
Rainbow Pride Resource Centre....2440
Randy Harris, Clinical Social Worker....2448
Urban Sex - Radio Show....4200
Victoria's....2430
Westways....2420

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EDMONTON
Community Groups

Buck Naked Boys Club of Edmonton....2040
Dignity....2012
Gay Men's Wednesday Coffee Evening....2021
GLCCE....2860
Kairos House....2047
LEGIT Edmonton....2017
Long Yang Club....2025
Men's Support Group....2042
Northern Titans Bowling....2031
Outreach (U of A)....2029
PFLAG....2045
Police Liaison Committee....2038
Prime Timers of Edmonton....2044
River Valley Cyclists....2032
The Curtain Rises....2880
Womonspace....2041
Youth Understanding Youth....2023

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EDMONTON
Businesses

Cosmetics by Karen....2525
Labyrinth Lodge....2060

LETHBRIDGE
Community Groups

AIDS Connection Society....2015
GALA/LA....2014

AIRDRIE
Community Groups

Gay Fathers....2046

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Calgary Networking Club
Xtension 2460
Gay Fathers
Xtension 2046

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Calgary: Rainbow Pride Resource Centre
L100 - 822 11th Ave SW
Noon - 10:00 pm, 7 days a week

Edmonton: Down Under
12224 Jasper Ave
Open 24 hrs/day
...or visit any Western Union outlet!

JUST FRIENDS

Box 1125: I'm 20, 5'10". Looking to make some new friends. You'd be interested in hanging out, going to movies, out for coffee, dinner, working out, playing sports or going to the bar. You are 18-26. Let's hang out.

Box 2836: Steve. I'm looking for some cool friends to go out dancing with, in cow town! We can travel too! I'm 23, 5'10", dark hair, dark eyes, 160lb. I've got a variety of interests and I like everything!

Box 2849: My name is Felix. I'm a nice guy and I'd like to chat.

Box 2870: Mid-40's, 6'3", 210lb, clean-shaven, hairy body, 6" cut dick, easygoing. I'm looking for a young fellow, with his own place, who is clean, disease free and would like to have his way with me.

Box 2925: I'm Graham, 23. I have a great sense of humour and like to have fun. I'm looking for someone around my age who likes to go out and have a good time. I love to do wild and crazy things.

Box 1024: I'm 38, 5'11", 180lb, short brown hair, brown eyes, mustache. I'm looking for friends to hang out with. I'm easygoing, honest and very sincere. I'm not into the bar scene. Perhaps we can be workout buddies.

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS

Box 1043: I'm 23, 6'1", 175-180lb, dark hair, greenish-brown eyes. I like to have fun, go to movies, play sports, taking pictures and listening to music. I'm also very dedicated to my job. I'm looking for someone, like me, who likes to have fun and is different.

Box 1087: Masculine, muscular, 42, 5'8", 175lb, brown hair, blue eyes, hairy body, well-endowed. I'm a bottom looking for an aggressive top. Some of my interests include, going for long walks, dancing, movies, the gym, jogging or just sitting to talk over a cup of coffee. I'm looking to find an honest, sincere, kind, caring and loving man that wants to start out as friends and try to take that into a long-term relationship. Take a chance, let's meet for Cruiseline.

Box 1119: I'd like to meet someone who is around 27, like myself. You are straight acting and looking and fun to be with. I'm 5'11", short brown hair, brown eyes, 6 1/2" dick. I'm great to talk to.

Box 1142: I'm a good-looking gay man. Physically, I stand 5'11", 160lb with a cleancut appearance. I'm well educated and professionally employed in the traditional sense and I have a variety of interests. They include arts, regular workouts, competitive sports, travel and enjoying life. You should be motivated, in good shape, with a pleasant demeanor and financially responsible. Your interests should definitely include more than going to the bar. As well you should have both urban and rural lifestyles.

Box 1151: I'm 5'8", 160lb, dark hair, moderately hairy, very athletic, very easy-going. Looking to meet people for friendship and possibly a long-term relationship. You must be in good shape, fairly athletic, have a good sense of humour and be easy-going.

Box 2816: Hi. This is Joe, 40 years old. I'd like a man, a cross dresser. I'm a top guy. I'm looking for a nice bum. I want him to be and always ready to play. Always. I want a nice ass. I love that.

Box 2881: I'm 24, 6'1", 210lb., dark hair, dark eyes, I'd say at least cute. I'm just looking for someone who is sweet and compassionate, a little bit romantic, that's nice. I'm not demanding by any means but I do like someone who is intelligent and can have conversations, a sense of humour, everything that pretty much the same things everyone else wants. I don't think that's too unfair to ask. I hope I sound interesting and I hope you are too.

Box 2891: I'm looking for a boyfriend, somebody that I can love. I'd like this somebody to be in their late-teens, or early 20s. Other than that, I really don't care what you look like, because what I care about is what's in your heart. I'm pretty sweet, sensual, caring, and understanding guy, and I would like to have a younger guy that I could love, and make me feel loved and wanted.

Box 2897: I'm looking around for another guy that's fairly straight-acting and looking, that is considered quite masculine, and attractive as well. Someone, probably, between the ages of 26 to 35, who's got his head screwed on straight, and is hopefully, a really funny guy. For myself, I'm 5'11", 168lb, brown hair, brown eyes, close-shaven goatee, moderately hairy-chested. Very straight acting, very masculine, and considered very attractive as well, so they say. I'm not necessarily looking for a relationship, but a cool friendship would be great.

CASUAL ENCOUNTERS

Box 1027: I'm a 22 year old college boy. I'm interested in older guys, anywhere from 25 to 60. I like top, bottom, both at the same time, if you have a friend. I'm into just about everything.

Box 1035: 22, tattooed, pierced, snowboarding skater guy, spending Christmas away from the family. Wondering if there is anyone out there wanting to hook-up for some casual fun-perhaps on Christmas day, sometime after dinner. I've got brown hair, green eyes, 6', 165lb, and I am pretty much into anything that's safe and clean. I live downtown, and I am looking to entertain. If it sounds good, leave a name, and description, and phone number in my box.

Box 1065: White male, 42 years old, 7" cock, nice balls, clean-shaven, cut, thick, hard, solid, nice firm round ass. I'm looking for some asses, and someone to suck my cock, and have it fill your asshole. Let's have fun.

Box 1073: Blond hair, blue eyes, 6' tall, 170lb, good-shape, smooth body, 18 year old. Looking to get together with another guy to suck some guys off, and maybe a little bit more. Also looking for threesomes with guys, between 18 and 24.

Box 1070: I'm a masculine, muscular, horny, cock-sucking slut. I'm 5'8", 170lb, brown hair, blue eyes, hairy body, 8" thick dick. I'm a bottom. I'm looking for an aggressive top that likes to fuck. I can entertain pretty much anytime. I'm looking for somebody on a casual, to semi-regular basis. I'm looking for married, or bi-men, in particular.

Box 1072: White male, 5'10", 165lb, short blond hair, bright-green eyes, about 8" very thick, cut. Looking to have some fun.

Box 1097: Well, I am a tall, very attractive, physically fit, masculine, 26 year old bottom, who is looking for a well-endowed top. I'm very oral, love getting into all sorts of kink. Love group action, as well. You must be well-endowed, and black guys are a real turn-on for me. I am really into black men, but it's not a must. Keep in mind, I can be very kinky.

Box 1120: I'm 40 years old, slim build, 5'9", 160lb, tight body, tight ass. First-timer, only been with a guy once, it worked for me a little bit, I guess, but I'm a little more serious. Looking for someone the same age, or a little older.

Box 1139: My name is Ricky. I'm 6', 165lb, well fit, 7-1/2" cut, nice balls, cock, nice tight ass. Very open-minded, virgin completely. Never been with a man or woman. Looking to be with a man, cross-dressers very welcome. Love to be with someone. Cross-dressers, perhaps cross-dress myself, eat hole, fuck, get fucked, suck your cock, you suck my cock, fulfill a few fantasies of our own.

Box 1152: 41 year old, bisexual male, 5'11", 175lb, short brown hair, hazel eyes, and moustache, straight-looking, straight-acting, safe, clean, and discreet. Looking for another male that wants to have an on-going, casual relationship with me. I'm into everything two males can get into, everything but pain. I'm easy-going, love to give head, mutual masturbation, like to roll around in the bed, hot showers. Love getting it on with another male.

Box 1158: I'm a 35 year old, good-looking, white male, blond hair, green eyes, 180lb, good-shape, nice body, great butt. Looking for some fun.

Box 1160: I'm 42, 5'9", 175lb, in good-shape, brown hair, and green eyes. I'm a top, I'm not in town very often. I'm a trucker, and I'm just looking for someone to get together with when I'm in town.

Box 2703: I'm a 23 year old, straight-acting, straight looking male, 5'11", 170lb, blond hair, blue eyes, great shape. Looking for other guys that are in excellent shape, and very good-looking, between the ages of 20 and 30.

Box 2801: I'm 28, 6'3", I'm very tall, very slim, very smooth, I've got a nice cock, it's about 8-1/2", shaved balls, shaved ass. Looking for young guys, jocks, younger the better, that are tops. I love getting into groups, and one on one. I'm looking for something more on-going.

Box 2812: I'm 38, new in Calgary, and I am bi-curious, and I would like to meet somebody. Maybe have an encounter.

Box 2853: My name is Andrew. I'm 26, inexperienced gay male. I'm looking for an older man, basically, to use me as he pleases. I live between Calgary and Red Deer, rural area, so Red Deer and Calgary are feasible options, but I'm looking for and older gay male, drug and disease free, prefer a non-smoker.

Box 2857: My name is Ryan, 21, bisexual male. Just looking to get together and have some fun. 5'10", 175lb, short brown hair, blue eyes, hair is clean-cut, goatee, 6-1/2" uncut, just looking for guys to get together with, have some oral fun, maybe more.

Box 2869: Hey dudes, how's it going? This is a straight-looking and acting, bisexual white male, clean, safe, and discreet. I'm into working out, and taking great care of my body. I stand 6'3", and 165lb. I have minimum body hair, and I'm very attractive. What I'm looking for are jocks, 27 and younger, who are down to earth, and adventurous. On occasion, I'm able to entertain.

Box 2875: I'm 30, looking to hook up with a young guy between the ages of 18 to 25. A cute looking guy, who is smaller than myself in height and weight. Myself, I'm 6'1-1/4", 200lb, athletic build, 8" cock, very thick, nice ass. Not really a top or a bottom, just like to get it on, have a good time, see where it takes us. If you have cute, boyish looks, and I stress that, if you want to hook up for something casual, box me.

Box 2912: I'm a 34, professional male, relatively inexperienced, looking for the same.

Box 2955: I'm 29, submissive bottom, considered attractive, 5'10", 160lb, blond hair, blue eyes. I'm clean-shaven, smooth body, 6-1/2" cut, sun-tanned. Looking to meet guys that have very large cocks. Love to get it on.

Box 2985: Looking for another guy, or several guys, to come over, have some fun. We enjoy group sex. My partner and I are both 39, pretty good looking guys. I'm about 5'11", 170lb, good shape, nice hairy chest, 7" cock. My partner is 6' tall, slim build, smooth, nice 9" cock on him. We enjoy everything. You won't be disappointed.

Box 2993: I'm 5'9", 165lb, brown hair, hazel eyes, clean-shaven, 6" cut. Bi-curious, just looking for some fun with a guy who has tits, or a chick with a dick, or something like that.

LEATHER & SM

Box 1075: I'm 26, 5'8", 160lb, brown hair and eyes, hairy chest and legs, keep my balls shaved. My cock is 6-1/2", over 2" across. I'm versatile. I'm into leather scenes. I'm into having my balls worked over, like working over another guy's balls and his tits. Into a lot more, too.

Box 1090: Hot male, top, looking for a bottom. If you enjoy being tied-down, restrained, used and abused, get back to me. 35, 5'4", 150lb, with a trim, solid build. Looking to drop by your place, and use and abuse you.

Box 2900: My name is Mike. I'm looking for a very submissive male, to do as I choose with. You have to have faith, I will give you experience.

Box 2913: Generous, married, submissive male, is looking for a Master.

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BEARS, BIG MEN & THEIR ADMIRERS

Box 1023: Hey guys, I'm in town on a regular basis. I'm tall, attractive, masculine, and sensuous. I have a medium, heavy-set build. I'm looking for guys who like big, hairy, masculine guys. I am interested in guys who are in-shape, pretty nicely hung, and are into servicing.

Box 2885: My name is Blaine. 6', 192lb, dark hair, hazel eyes, into sports, all sorts of adventurous, and kinky stuff. Very open-minded.

PHONE BUDDIES

Box 1019: Hey, this is Derek. I'm an 18 year old gay male, brown hair, brown eyes. I stand 5'9", 150lb, basically looking for a big-brother type person, 18 to 24. Talk about my life, and things that are going on.

Box 1064: Hi, this is Gary. I am 29. I'm about 5'11", I work out 3 or 4 times a week. I'm into a lot of athletic stuff. In the winter I like to ski in my spare time, whenever I can. I also like to bike in the summer time. I enjoy a lot of walking, even the odd coffee every now and then. I also like doing trips up to the mountains sometimes, if I can, spend a weekend away. Like sight seeing. Looking for someone with similar interests.

Box 2751: Love to lay back, and stroke my dick, tug on my balls, when I talk to hot, young, horny guys like you. Get my dick rock-hard. Stroke it. Pump a nice big load together.

Box 2877: My name is Tyler. I'm about 18, 5'9", short blond-bleached hair. I have my tongue pierced. I am really outgoing. I love to rave, I like to party, I like to meet new people.

TRANSGENDER

Box 1050: I am 35, 5'11", 160lb, short sandy-blond hair, and blue eyes. No beard, no moustache, hair parted down the center. I like to dress casual, blue jeans, T-shirt, running shoes. I am looking for a young, TV, or cross-dresser, for on-going, discreet, intimate encounters. Mornings, preferably. I really love oral and anal, I am 6" cut.

Box 1058: This is a 44 year old, married, bi-male. 5'4", 135lb, short brown hair, side-burns, moustache. Would like to meet transsexuals, transvestites, and men who like to dress in women's clothes. I'm very discreet. I would love a very intimate, giving, and sharing meeting with anyone out there who is interested.

Box 1063: I'm 25, cross-dresser. I'm not passable, but I love playing the part in nylons and stockings and panties. I'm looking for someone like you to have a great time with.

Box 2713: Tom here. 5'8", 175lb, very nice, hairy body. Looking for TV, TS, or a cross-dresser, either for friendship, or long-term.

Box 2728: I'm 28, 6'2", 190lb, very open-minded. Love wearing lingerie. Looking for someone the same. Any age or race.

Box 2772: This is Steve. 35, 6'3", 220lb, brown hair, green eyes. What I am looking for, is a passable transgender, pre-op, to have a long- term relationship with.

Box 2786: My name is Dusty, 26. I'm very good-looking, slim, 160lb. With the right person, I am very sensitive.

Box 2822: My name is John. I'm an Australian guy living here in Calgary. I'm looking for an attractive TV or TS. I am 28, 5'11", brown hair, blue-gray eyes. I have a thick, 8" uncut cock, and a hairy body. Masculine guy, weighing 180lb. I like to run, swim, jog, so I am pretty fit. Looking for an adventurous TV or TS, who wants to have a good time, on an off basis.

Box 2837: I'm curious. I'm 5'10", 185lb, I'm very well built. I work out all the time, so I am very broad-shouldered, very thick chest, nice smooth tummy, told that I have a really cute ass. I am very interested to be with a passable TV or TS. Very nervous, but I am willing, very horny.

Box 2847: Batty-boy, seeking similar.

Box 2872: Slim, passable, 40, single TV. Looking for LTR with any man, any age.

Box 2921: I'm a mid-40s, passable TV. I am 5'9", long hair, brown eyes, bottom, submissive. What else do you want to know?

Box 2929: It's Dwayne. I'm 30, 170lb, brown hair, green eyes, slim build, clean shaven, attractive, 7-1/2" cut shaved cock and balls. I am bisexual. I have had a long-term fantasy, to get involved with a transsexual, or transvestite. I am more of a bottom.

Box 2994: Very dominant, kinky, 36, male, looking for hot, good-looking, young guys under 30, who are slim, toned, and relatively smooth bodied, who like to be forced-feminized. If you are a hot, good-looking, straight acting, and appearing, who like to be forced-feminized, and be my bitch, let me know how you like to play. I am 5'9", 165lb, tanned, pierced tongue.

BISEXUALS

Box 1077: I'm a very good-looking, 29 year old. I travel to Calgary often. Looking for some hot, discreet, group action in my hotel room. I'll be there on the nights of the 19th and 20th of January. I am 6', 170lb, trim, toned, dark hair, blue eyes, nice big cock, 7-1/2" cut, nice and thick. I've got a tight, hungry ass, that loves to get stretched, and a hungry mouth that likes to take a hot load. Maybe you want to bring a buddy or two, the more the merrier.

Box 1084: We are a couple in our late 20s, both bi-curious. We're looking for select males or females that are bi-curious. We have never had any encounters, but yet very curious. We're looking for cut males only.

Box 1092: I'm a 30 year old, bi, married male. Looking for discreet encounters. I am 5'10-1/2", 180lb, athletic, good-looking, short brown hair, hazel eyes, 7-1/2" cut cock.

Box 1165: Bi guy, looking for a couple, another male/male, or male/female. I prefer someone who is well hung, preferably at least 8-9", maybe even bigger. I am 5'9", 155lb, 7" uncut, really nice tight bum.

Box 2831: My name is Chris. I am 5'9", 145lb, considered attractive, outgoing. What I am looking for is a bi-male, for casual get-togethers.

Box 2903: I'm a medium built, straight acting, 27, 5'6", 170lb, with brown hair, brown eyes. Interested in getting together with Asian, White, or East Indian guys, around my age, or younger. Discretion is assured.

Box 2918: Bi, attached guy, very good-looking, early 30s, very good shape, 6'2", 185lb, dark hair, very well endowed. She is 5'10", 150lb, brunette, very attractive, very pretty, large breasts and nipples, shaved. We are a very attractive bi-couple, looking for other couples, or bi-males, for threesomes, or foursomes. Discreet, clean, and safe, and expect the same.

Box 2941: My name is Mike. 23, brown hair, green eyes, 5'8", 185lb, clean-cut, clean-shaven, straight-acting, straight-looking. Looking for the same. Looking for someone around my age. I am a student at the University. Peace and Love.

Box 2983: I am new to the system. 34 year old bi-guy, wondering what is out there, who is out there. Looking for young guys, or couples, or I am not quite sure if it would be just for chatting, or getting together discreetly.

Box 2992: 34 year old bi-male, 6'3", 185lb, 7" uncut. What I would like to find out there is any type of group action. If there is any couples out there looking for a second male, I would love to join in. Fulfillment of fantasies is basically what I'm here for. Yes, group action is what I am into.

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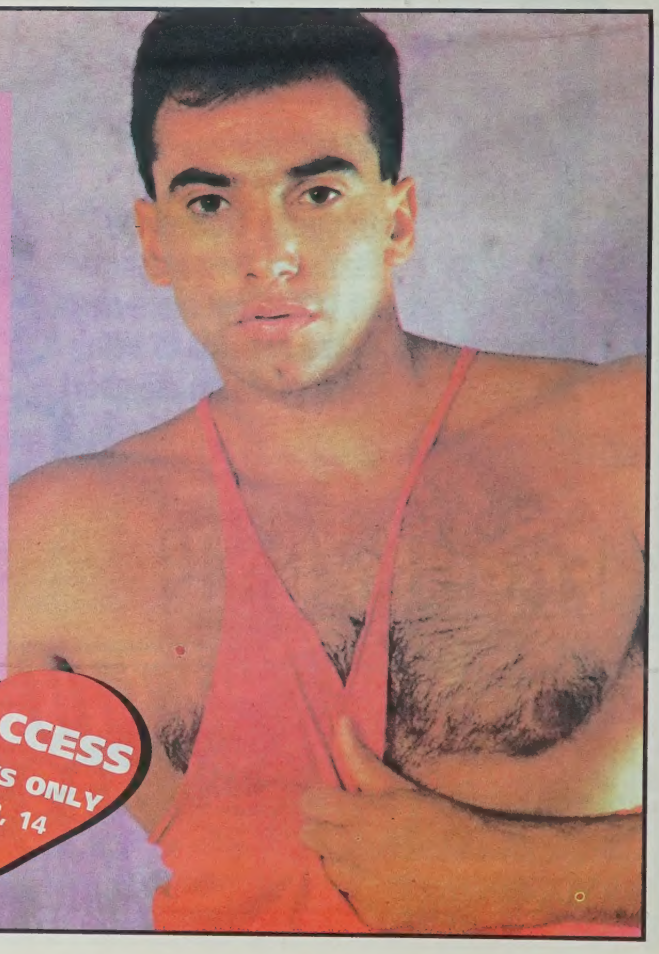

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